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WEEKLY PEOPLE

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MAY DAY MEETING

ENTHUSIASTIC GATHERING GREETS S. L. P. SPEAKERS.

Stirring Addresses Delivered By Corregan, Mercer, Hunter and De Leon—Strong Resolutions Passed Unanimously—Ends with Cheers for S. L. P.

A large and enthusiastic audience greeted the opening of the Socialist Labor Party's celebration of International Labor Day at Cooper Union last night, when the chairman, John J. Kinneally, in his usual vigorous manner, called the meeting to order and explained its object. Kinneally briefly set forth the origin of the celebration of the first day of May as Labor's own international day, telling how and why it came to be adopted as such, after which he introduced as the first speaker Charles H. Corregan.

Corregan delivered a short but telling oration, in which he explained that International Labor Day was not founded on sentiment, but on the solid bed-rock of class interests. He referred to the origin of May Day, and showed how, on that day, we find in contradistinction to the attitude of the observers of the September "Labor" day, the forces of the working class lined up on the one side, true to their material interests in defiance of their capitalist enemies on the other side, from whose exploitation they desired to be freed. Corregan also showed that because of the lack of character, the absence of an intelligent aim and the perfidious uses to which the September "Labor" day is being put, it will degenerate and is degenerating into a day of debauches and of disgrace upon the name of Labor and those who are foolish or ignorant enough to accept its observance with the mistaken impression that it may mean something to them. On the other hand, the speaker pointed out the celebration of May Day by the class-conscious Socialist workers will grow in strength and meaning because of its solid foundation on class interests, instead of sentimental ignorance. When we have gained our emancipation and abolished capitalism, then, he declared, will we be able to have a sentimental celebration of May Day in a commemoration of the times when the workers of the world gathered and called upon their fellow workers to unite and do away with the causes of their slavery and establish a new system whereby they would become free. The points made by Corregan were loudly applauded.

The next speaker, Charles J. Mercer, of Bridgeport, Conn., delivered an able address, which was not only thoroughly appreciated, but was liberally applauded. Mercer also referred to the material class interest side of the celebration of International Labor Day as its distinguishing feature, declaring that in this the International movement took a similar position in all capitalist countries. After dwelling on this significant fact in connection with the universal celebration of May Day, Mercer declared that the Socialist Labor Party was unique in all the Movement because of the fact that it not only sticks to the Revolutionary principle of demanding the overthrow of capitalism and obtaining for the workers the full product of their toil, but has, in addition, adopted the most absolutely correct tactics of any portion of the Revolutionary movement.

The superiority of the S. L. P. in this respect, he declared, was generally recognized by comrades everywhere. Mercer closed by urging his hearers to study the movement through its literature, and learn the significance of May Day and the necessity of joining hands with the S. L. P. in the work of emancipation. Mercer was also repeatedly applauded, and when he concluded, the chairman read a set of resolutions, which were adopted unanimously, as follows:

Whereas, The capitalist class has, through its exploitation of the world's markets, given a cosmopolitan character to production and distribution in every country; no country produces for itself; all countries are under the necessity of engaging in commerce for the purpose of disposing of the surplus products stolen from labor; and,

Whereas, This exploitation of the world's markets has given a cosmopolitan character to the struggles between the capitalist class on the one side and the working class on the other, the nationality lines having been wiped out between workingman and workingman; all workingmen, no matter what their nationality or the nation in which they are employed, are under the necessity of combating the wage slavery of the capitalist class and engaging in the overthrow of the capitalist system, which robs them of the greater part of their products while enslaving them; and,

Whereas, This exploitation of the world's markets has given a cosmopolitan character to the social phenomena of every country; no country can refrain from engaging in wars for commercial purposes, such as that now raging between Russia and Japan; all countries find expansion and imperialism a modern necessity; this country, especially, because of its colossal trust production, must depart from the national traditions of Washington and engage in the subjugation of the Philippines, the partition of China and the secession of Panama—in a word, take part in world politics and foreign alliances for the purpose of securing markets wherein to dispose of the products the capitalist class has stolen from labor. Again, no country is free from industrial crises. All countries are afflicted with them, so that, like expansion and imperialism, they are international. Great Britain, Germany, South Africa and Australia now complain of industrial depression. This country is also in the midst of one, in which curtailment, wage reductions, high prices, strikes and lockouts, unemployment and general working class suffering are widespread. No civilized country is free from the evils of capitalism; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the workingmen of New York—the most cosmopolitan city of cosmopolitan capitalism—in mass meeting assembled, under the auspices of the Socialist Labor Party, renew our allegiance to the object of International Labor Day, the logical sequence of international capitalism, which is to end the world robbery of labor and the resultant class and commercial wars and crises, by abolishing capitalism and inaugurating Socialism; be it further

Resolved, That we call upon the workingmen of all nations to unite with this great end in view, conscious of their own interests and of the decay of nationalism, which is the most prominent characteristic of modern capitalism.

Workingmen of all countries, unite! You have the world to gain, and only your chains to lose!

Following the adoption of the resolutions, James T. Hunter was introduced. Hunter dwelt more particularly on the turmoil that is looming up on the political horizon of the 1904 campaign, and exposed the fallacy of believing that there is anything to choose between the various capitalist parties, warning the workingmen that the demagogical element of the combination will hold radical language in order to deceive them.

The last speaker was Daniel De Leon, editor of The Daily People. De Leon gave a brief and lucid explanation of what is meant by the true spirit of the May Day celebration. The day, he stated, symbolizes the fact that, notwithstanding differences of race, color and nationality, the universal empire has been established. Regardless of all these, workers of all countries are called upon to unite as one class in opposition to the powers of enthroned capitalism. This attitude is a definant challenge to all organizations, pure and simple trades union or what not, which do not stand for this spirit of unity.

A collection taken up at the meeting netted $64, which is some $7 or $8 less than that taken up last year, a fact which was taken to indicate the way in which the pressure of the hard times is being felt by the working class.

Altogether, the meeting was a grand and encouraging success, and ended with cheers for the S. L. P.

NATIONAL AGITATION FUND COMMITTEE.

Meeting of the committee was held at The Daily People building, Sunday, May 1, Comrade Zimmermann, chairman. The Secretary read a mass of correspondence pertaining to the work of the committee. The Treasurer reported that New York and New Jersey returns are incomplete, and no returns have been had from Massachusetts or the State of Washington. In view of this and the fact that the clerical work necessary for the proper wind-up of the work is of such magnitude as to consume a good deal of time, it was decided to postpone final adjustment until Saturday evening, June 4, on which date there will be a meeting of the general committee of Section New York. Organizations that have not yet reported must make returns before that date.

SECRETARY.

ILLINOIS ON DECK

S. L. P. Convention Nominates Presidential Electors and State Ticket. Philip Veal Chosen as the Candidate for Governor—Vigorous Campaign Planned—Report of Good Work Done During Past Year—A United Membership Throughout the State

The Illinois State Convention of the Socialist Labor Party, held in Fortune Hall, Springfield, Sunday, April 24, nominated the following tickets:

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS.

William Warner, William Andreas and Charles Markham, Belleville; Matt. Probst, Divernon; William Veal, Jacob Roach, Matt. Epich and Theo. Guenther, Collinsville; A. P. Sands and Moses Fennell, Maryville; James Stirrup, Edwardsville; F. G. Hoffman, Quincy; Val. Martis and John Lewis, Jacksonville; G. Stevens, H. Bloemsma, W. C. Dambring, G. Surber and A. C. Ford, East St. Louis; O. E. Jones, James Moody and J. B. Francis, Duquoin; Henry Woods, Springfield; Walidimi Signori and Geralamo Promis, Peru.

STATE TICKET.

Governor,
Philip Veal, Collinsville.
Lieutenant-Governor,
Carl Koechlin, Peoria.
Secretary of State,
James Lewis, Springfield.
Attorney-General,
William Yochum, Belleville.
Auditor of Public Accounts,
C. A. Johnson, East St. Louis.
State Treasurer,
G. Renner, Jacksonville.
Trustees of State University,
Mrs. Maria Mollburg, Chicago.
Mrs. Olive M. Johnson, E. St. Louis.
Walter Goss, Belleville.

The State Committee was instructed to fill whatever vacancies may occur.

The Illinois State Convention was called to order by State Organizer Will W. Cox. Charles Eide was elected temporary chairman, and J. M. Francis temporary secretary.

Cox submitted an order of business, which was accepted.

The following Credential Committee was then elected: Fiedler, Goss and Swanson. A recess was taken to give the committee time to report. This, when submitted, showed the following delegates entitled to seats: G. A. Jenning, Section East St. Louis; Walter Goss, Section Belleville; Charles Eide, Section Madison County; C. A. Swanson, Section Springfield; August F. Fiedler, Section Chicago, and J. Kohler, Section Peoria. The delegates were seated, and, on motion, the temporary organization was made permanent.

The following committees were then elected: Resolutions, Fiedler, Jenning and Kohler; Party Press, W. W. Cox; Organization, Agitation and Constitution, Jenning, Cox and Goss. Adjournment until after dinner then followed.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Chair having called Convention to order, on motion, G. Renner, member-at-large from Jacksonville, was made a delegate.

Report of committees was then called for. Resolutions Committee reported seven resolutions, which were taken up and thoroughly discussed, occupying the whole of the afternoon. All were adopted, with the exception of No. 4, which resulted in a tie vote, and was finally referred to the membership for a vote.

On motion, Jenning was elected to prepare resolutions for publication.

RESOLUTION NO. 4, ON N. E. C.

"As it has come to our notice from time to time, by means of circulars, that there is a tendency in certain quarters of the Socialist Labor Party to carry the spirit of Democracy to an extreme, namely, to spread out the membership of the National Executive Committee over a large geographical territory, and thereby making it more representative, so-called, and in the light of the fact that a National Executive Committee composed of members residing hundreds of miles away from the seat of the N. E. C. would necessitate an outlay in the way of railroad fares that would be out of all proportion to the work performed, and in view of the fact that such a form of organization would put an additional burden upon the membership; be it therefore,

"Resolved, That the Illinois delegates of the Socialist Labor Party to the National Convention be hereby instructed to work and vote against any and all propositions or resolutions, or otherwise, aiming to change the present form of organization of the National Executive Committee, and that our delegates be instructed to vote for the City of New York as the seat of the N. E. C."

Committee on Nominations reported the above nominations, all of which were adopted.

On motion, minutes of last State Convention were read and adopted.

Report of State Executive Committee was then read by State Organizer Cox and adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF ILLINOIS S. E. C.

Collinsville, Ill., April 10, 1904.

This report begins with the special State Convention held in the City of Chicago, January 18 and 19, 1903. The Kanglet uprising and secession, and the trouble created therefrom, which ended at this special convention, the membership has been made acquainted with. The Party in Illinois, having gotten rid of this element, we began the work of a revolutionary organization, understanding each other as never before, and with a more solid organization launched into the fields of capitalism to fight the battles of the proletariat.

In fact, up to this time the movement in the State of Illinois had never been in good working order as a State organization.

At the special convention eight Sections were reported as being in existence—Chicago, Peoria, Roanoke, Springfield, Jacksonville, Madison County, E. St. Louis and Belleville. Two of these have since discontinued, viz., Jacksonville and Roanoke; Jacksonville due to the fact that it is a strictly middle-class city. A number of State institutions are located there, such as a deaf and dumb asylum, an insane asylum and an institution for the blind, naturally requiring a number of political appointees. The city is overrun with churches, which are naturally demanded by the middle class. With no proletariat membership nor population to speak of, the Section drifted into a middle-class organization, hence it was forced to discontinue; three staunch members, remaining however, as members-at-large. Roanoke is a small mining camp, with but about 300 inhabitants, a sort of an isolated place, with capitalism traveling at a high speed and Socialism keeping abreast. These few slaves fell so far behind they dropped by the wayside. The other six Sections, by struggling with conditions, have kept up, and one old Section was revived, namely, Duquoin, making seven in all, and three members-at-large, two in Peru and one in Quincy, making a total membership in good standing of seventy-nine.

With this force of wage slaves, the following has been accomplished: The three Sections, Madison County, East St. Louis and Belleville, having been elected as the seat of the State Committee, the committee entered upon its duties with an indebtedness of $45. The committee issued a statement and a call, embodying a proposition to put a solicitor in the field for the Party press. To this call for funds the membership responded with such promptness that at the set time the deficit was all wiped out and a nice little sum was on hand to start the solicitor en route. Charles Pierson was engaged and put to work, and kept at it for a period of six months, securing over 400 subscribers to the Weekly and over 700 to the Monthly People, besides selling over 1,000 pamphlets and distributing over 4,000 leaflets. For this the Party paid out over $230, but, as was stated in a full report of this work by the State Organizer, published in The People, the Party in Illinois was out but $50. The balance was as a donation to the National Organization, but in the shape of business turned over to the Party press. Many of the subscribers to the Weekly secured by Pierson were for six months, and have all expired, with but few renewals, and yet there were less than 300 subscribers in the State when Pierson started, and with the loss of nearly all the six months' subscribers he secured, we have up to date over 700 subscribers to The Weekly, hence it shows the membership has not been idle and depending upon a paid solicitor.

In addition to the expense of a solicitor, the little contest before the Election Commissioners in the City of Chicago with the Kanglets—the seceders—for the Party name, cost us over $85. To this call the membership responded, and before the time set we had enough money on hand to meet the expense.

With the approach of winter, the work of securing subscribers did not cease, or the number we have would not be as it is. True, outdoor agitation had to be discontinued, but we desire to report that Section East St. Louis, with the assistance of Sections Belleville and Madison County, combined with Section St. Louis, Mo., and by exchanging speakers have carried on, in halls, through the winter weekly lecture meetings that have been very educational to the Party membership, as well as outsiders, and have fitted us with more knowledge to enter the coming year's work, and especially the coming campaign.

There was one plan, however, that the S. E. C. failed in—that of trying to secure Weekly subscriptions from those who subscribed to the Monthly. We had 1,000 circular letters printed. This, together with a sample copy of The Weekly, was to be sent to the Monthly subscribers. After spending something over $3 on postage on this plan, with no results, we discontinued the plan, being out altogether about $10.

With the summer months approaching, preparations began for the coming campaign, to which there has been a hearty response, and up to date there is over $50 in the State fund for agitational purposes and the spreading of the Party press. The Sections have in hand the circular letter containing the pledge of the S. E. C. to get 1,000 subscribers to The Weekly People within six months, and $50 has been laid out for prepaid subscription cards as a beginning of the work. A solicitor has been secured, and is now working in the City of Chicago on trial.

Your State Committee desires to state that they have done their best, and feel joyful over the results, not because of the amount of work being great, for it has been but little, as compared to what there is ahead of us, but because of the hearty co-operation of the entire membership in the State. There is much more to be done this year, but we feel with this united action we will be equal to the emergency, increasing our power. Thereby, in time, we will be able to increase our membership, for only in this manner, by this mode of operation, i. e., as a well-trained and disciplined organization, traveling the road of progress, will we become victorious.

Your State Executive Committee,
WILL W. COX, State Organizer.
G. A. JENNING, Rec. Sec'y.
GUS SURBER, Fin. Sec'y.
WALTER GOSS, Treasurer.
PHILIP VEAL.
WILLIAM VEAL,
MOSES FENNELL.
WILLIAM YOCHUM.

Adjourned until after supper.

NIGHT SESSION.

Chair having called Convention to order, on motion, it was decided that the report of Committee on Resolutions covered the work that was desired from the Committee on Organization, Agitation and Constitution.

Under unfinished business, the question of delegates to National Convention was brought up. Pledges to pay the expense entailed were called for; $70 were pledged. It was decided to leave settlement of the matter in the hands of the S. E. C., as all the delegates were not prepared to pledge their Sections. It was decided to send five delegates, if $100 can be raised.

The proceedings of the California S. E. C., in the trial of Charles Pierson, were read and endorsed. The S. E. C. was instructed, if possible, to close contract with Comrade McGinnis for the season.

Under new business, a proposition from Section Chicago was submitted, the substance of which was that more systematic and uniform bookkeeping be established within the party. On motion, the proposition was referred back to Section Chicago for preparation, after which it is to be given to National delegates, who are to confer with the Labor News Company, and from thence bring it to the Convention.

The S. E. C. was instructed to make preparations to send our candidate for Governor out on a tour of the State, beginning August 7, and keep him out until election.

The following resolution on the death of Comrade Alley was adopted:

"Whereas, Austin Alley, of Staunton, Ill., member-at-large, died on April 15, 1904, from injuries received in a mine accident (so-called), some five weeks earlier; therefore be it

"Resolved, That the Socialist Labor Party of Illinois, in State Convention assembled, while mourning the loss of a valuable comrade, who fearlessly fought the battles of his class, extends its heartfelt sympathy to his parents and friends; and be it further

"Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his parents and friends, and same be recorded in the minutes of this convention, and sent to the S. L. P. press for publication.

"G. A. JENNING,
"AUG. F. FIEDLER,
"Committee."

The present seat of the S. E. C. was renominated as the seat of the S. E. C. for the ensuing term.

The S. E. C. was instructed to procure a legal stamp.

A vote of thanks was extended to Section Springfield for its hospitality in entertaining the convention.

Moved to adjourn until our next regular convention. Carried.

J. M. FRANCIS, Sec'y.

GERMAN PARTY ORGAN.

Section Cleveland Arranges Fair for Its Benefit—The Work Done.

Comrades—Our German Party Organ, the "Socialistische Arbeiter Zeitung" has in the last few months made some headway in regard to the subscription list, but not yet enough to have the paper on a paying basis. Until the subscription list of the "Socialistische Arbeiter Zeitung," by energetic and systematic work of the comrades, is raised to a point where the paper is self-sustaining, the party must cover the deficiency. The bulk of this burden has been carried by the members of Section Cleveland. With other large expenses on its hands, Section Cleveland has asked and received the consent of the N. E. C. to arrange a general bazaar and prize division for the benefit of the "Socialistische Arbeiter Zeitung."

We expect to have a large number of prizes for this occasion and would therefore call upon the comrades and sympathizers throughout the United States and Canada to donate such prizes. When all give a helping hand the burden is comparatively small. All presents should be sent to the undersigned address and the same will be acknowledged in the party press. As soon as a sufficient number of prizes are at hand we will ship tickets to all Sections for disposal.

The management of "Socialistische Arbeiter Zeitung,"
193 Champlain street, Cleveland, O.

Indorsed by N. E. C., S. L. P., National Secretary.

Presents so far received: Mrs. R. Koeppel, Cleveland, O., elegant apron, handworked; Mrs. A. Mesner, Cleveland, O., table cover, crochet work; Mrs. M. Manschu, Cleveland, O., beautiful table cover; A. M., Cleveland, O., elegant card holder.

AMSTERDAM CONGRESS.

New York, May 2, 1904.

To the Sections of the S. L. P.

Greeting:—

Please note the following:

1. Some Sections located in organized States, who received the Amsterdam Congress Assessment stamps from their State Executive Committee are sending remittances for these stamps direct to the undersigned. This is wrong. Having received the stamps from the S. E. C., that body must receive the returns. We at this end have but one account—with the S. E. C.; that body in turn has accounts with the sections attached to it. Only such sections and members-at-large as are located in unorganized States remit direct to the undersigned.

2. In so far as reports on the assessment have been received, most of them mentioned not at all the vote cast for the delegate. It is true, there is but one nomination, but a vote must be taken nevertheless and the number of votes cast must be reported, otherwise there will be no election.

Organizers of sections will please take notice.

HENRY KUHN,
National Secretary.

CONGRESSIONAL

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE EXCEPTIONALLY EARLY ADJOURNMENT.

Republican Confession of Weakness as Against Democrats—Democratic and Republican Confession of Weakness as Against Labor—The Important Anti-Injunction Bill Put Off Till After Election.

On Thursday, the 58th Congress adjourned. But there is much more in the word "adjourned" in this instance than usually, or ever before. This session of Congress is called the "long session." It is so called because it meets in December and adjourns whenever it pleases the next year, often deep into June, if not later; while the second session, which also begins in December, must adjourn on March 4, and hence is called the "short session." It consequently is not merely an "adjournment" that Congress took. It took a "shut up!" To adjourn so early even in an ordinary year would have pointedly indicated a determination on the part of the majority to shut up the minority. This year, however, is no ordinary year. It is a Presidential year. The bulk of the session has been taken up with stump speeches. Both sides have sparred for position. It obviously was the opportunity of the majority to get up their campaign declamation, floor the Democrats, and then go before the country and sweep the field. The majority did not avail itself of the opportunity. The conclusion is justified that it knew what it was about, and that is a proof that the Republican party realizes that it has a hard fight on hand this year. The longer the session lasted the more wounds were shot into its body by the Democrats. Accordingly the phenomenally early adjournment of Congress is a Republican admission of weakness.

The admission of weakness, however, will be seen to be mutual—Democratic as well as Republican—when the bills are considered which both parties have willingly, aye, gladly left pending until after election. In this respect the two parties show the weakness of their position toward the working class.

Among these bills the most prominent one is the so-called anti-injunction bill. All students of the modern trend of affairs know that the capitalist class is leaning ever harder on the judiciary. That is their palladium. Laws may be well enough. But the legislators have short official lives, and do not always stand straight when nearing their term's end and require a new term. Judges, however, are for life. They are independent of the Labor vote. Of course the legislators can impeach them. But the capitalists are trying hard to conceal and obliterate the fact, while they do all they can to attach occult powers and sanctity to the judiciary. Injunctions are a sort of judicial legislation. It is the neatest manner of hamstringing Labor. The capitalist class is bent upon that. Labor is kicking. Its blind kick materializes in a foolish and ineffective anti-injunction cry. The result has been an anti-injunction bill that on its face looks like a compromise and satisfies neither side. In sight of this Democrats and Republicans dodge. They both refuse to incur the ill-will of Labor and both seek the good will of the money bags for campaign use. Such a bill, such a subject, had to be given a wide berth. The early adjournment was the "clever" dodge.

Thus the 58th Congress closes its first, or strictly speaking, its second session in a posture that covers both old parties with disgrace as cowards—a disgrace that Labor will have to share wherever it fails to mop the earth with the Rep-Dem candidates this fall, and return S. L. P. men.

MINNESOTA S. L. P. VICTORIOUS.

The following telegram has been received from St. Paul:

"St. Paul, Minn., April 28.

"Daily People, 6 New Reade street, New York:

"Supreme Court of Minnesota has handed down a decision nullifying legislative act and allows only candidates of the Socialist Labor Party to use name Socialist on election ticket. Good work by State Committee—A. W. Anderson and others. EMILE CONSTANT."

FRANZ VON SICKINGEN

A Tragedy in Five Acts

Translated from the German of Ferdinand Lassalle by

DANIEL DE LEON

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ACT IV.

SCENE I.—*A hall in the castle of Palsgrave Ludwig, the Elector Palatine, at Heidelberg. Enter the Elector's* SECRETARY *and a* KNIGHT *of the Archbishop of Treves. Later the* ELECTOR *himself.*

Sec. So closely pressed does your master feel?
Speak on; be not so chary of your words.
Knt. So closely pressed that to death I rode
Two horses, but a breath or two to gain
On time. The town may any moment fall.
Where is your master, and why do you not
Lead me to him?
Sec. He soon will here be.
Have patience, but, meanwhile, be kind enough
To satisfy my keen curiosity.
If such a goodly army had your lord,
Why did he not go out to meet the knight,
The town with his own breast thus shield, and thus
The dangers both avoid, of famine and
Of treason?
Knt. Surely, master Secretary,
Were you a general, you would without
A doubt in open battle Franz defeat!
Who questions that? But common mortals as
The rest of us, are not so bold. Where that
Knights leads, each common soldier grows to a hero,
And fights as if he crowns would win. But, lo,
Here comes your noble Lord. Hail, Sir, to you!
[*Enters the Palsgrave, and the Knight bows low.*]
Lud. Are you the knight from Treves?
Knt. Yes, Sir; I am,
Whom to your Grace, in his great stress my Lord
Has sent, you of the treaties to remind.
Lud. How stands your master's case? Speak on!
Knt. Your Grace,
The flood to overflowing swells. The grim
Knight holds our Treves in iron embrace fast,
And presses her so savage to his heart,
Her iron corsage cracks, crushed by his love's
Intensity. While now I speak, the blood
Of nobles flows, the walls under the blows
Of cannons shake. None knows what the next hour brings!
Lud. How could Franciscus, in so short a time,
Such inroads make? Upon your Lord's first notice,
Agreeable to treaty, I sent to him
A goodly troop of mounted men and foot,
And equal reinforcements came to him
From other friends. How comes it, at the head
Of all his nobles, of his peasant-vassals,
And strengthened with these aids, he failed a head
To make against Franciscus in the field?
Knt. Oh, ask not, Sir; there was no head to make!
The terror of his name before him flew,
A Gorgon, palsying resistance. Like
A second Holofernes, magistrates
And commons, maidens robed in white went out
To meet him with the beat of drum and trumpet bray.
Whate'er resistance, down his savage sword
Did mow. St. Wendel, Grimberg, Bliescastel
He took by storm, and, forthwith, waxing like
A speeding conflagration, rolled on Treves.
The God of War himself, had he stepped down
From high, could not *his* fury have withstood!
In his mailed hand would Treves now be, had not
An accident, or wonder saved us.
Lud. What's that?
Knt. While, breaking into towns and burgs,
Resistlessly Franciscus marched on Treves,
Th' Elector into Eifel threw himself,
His people to a levy in mass to call.
This Franz perceived. Intending th' Archbishop's
Retreat to intercept, of the Moselle
The left bank with the bastard of Sombreff
He occupies. The hot-head bastard, tho',
Away being carried by the ardor of
His zeal, his way to Eifel forces, hot
Upon th' Elector's heels. With cleverly
Disguised marches, he deceives the hound;
Finds free the shore; and in two days runs in
His town, ere Franz arrived before our gates.—
Had Franz found Treves without her Lord, she would
Have trembling fallen on his breast, and now,
A fugitive upon the mountain, would
Th' Elector be—afraid of every hunter's footfall.
Lud. No accident, it was the will of God,
That such misfortune turned from his head!
But now, protected by the walls of Treves,
That many a month a siege could brave, how can
He fear so speedy a fall?
Knt. Oh, sir, how long
Could the supplies for such a garrison
Hold out in a besieged town? But 'tis
Not that alone. Part of the townsmen—this
Our master knows from intercepted letters—
Is grumbling for Franciscus. E'en the better
Ones hard grow to control, when day and night
They're frequent called to take their posts of danger.
As I was leaving, he was making ready
The town with burning shot to assail; nor could
It many storms with ease withstand.—But, Sir,
I also good news have. I tidings bring
From Philip, Hess's landgrave, visited
By me in Darmstadt, on the self-same errand.
The noble Prince's cheek glowed red with rage,
When he his ally's stress heard of. Before
The sixth sun in the sea has dipped, he swore
His army forth to lead. An equal force
From you he expects. The place you are to name
Where both the forces are to meet, thence jointly
To Treves' relief set forth.
Lud. [*Hesitating.*] Equip a force
Upon so short a notice—have you thought
Of that—it is impossible! Moreover—
Knt. Oh, do not hesitate, your Grace! Think of
The treaties! Mind that ev'ry hour may *that*
Bring on that nevermore could altered be.
Lud. I'll gladly do all that I can. I'll send
Another company to aid you.
Knt. Oh!
And do you hasten that it timely may
Arrive to join the feast of Treves' sad wake?
Lud. [*After a short pause—during which the Elector has walked the room up and down, steeped in thought—with a bitter tone.*]
With half-help nothing could be done; your whole
Force, Sir, alone can stead. The Hessian emulate!
An army call around you; jointly march
To Treves with Philip, else the town will fall
In ruins. You soon could not, what now you can!
Lud. [*Stopping still, and to himself in deep agitation.*]
'Gainst Franz an army shall I lead?—That were
A fight for life and death! He never that
Would pardon—nor I him, e'er I go so far!
Let Philip do so—and not me—if with
His Luth'ran conscience he can reconcile the act!
Me other duties bind. Franz! Franz! So far
Shall I the years-long love, the troth forget
That you and your house——before my eyes
The bloody specter rises of Schweickhardt,
Your father, warning with his head—
Knt. [*Pressing.*] Decide.
Sir! While we speak the leaden dice fall heavy,
Cast by the God of War upon devoted Treves.
Lud. [*With positiveness.*]
It can that be! You ask th' impossible.
The Hessian will suffice. I'll reinforcements send,
And—*that is all* that I am able to.
Knt. It then is o'er, and great events will yet
This year's sun look down upon. Inevitably.
Is verified Franciscus' word.
[*Turns to go.*]
Lud. What word?
Knt. Within St. Wendel's walls the prime nobility
Of Treves itself intreached had. There were
Bruno von Schmidtburg, Waldecker von Keimt,
Otto von Ketting, and good many more—
The pillars of th' archbishopric, pledged solemnly
The place to hold, though they with it went down.
In vain did twice the knight a storm essay;
He's beaten back by their heroic stand.
But hotter still, inflamed with furious rage,
Franciscus rushes on, and, at the third
Attack, like glass he breaks both wall and men.
As, then, within th' Archbishop's burg he stood,
Surrounded by his military chiefs,
And the long train of captured nobles filed
Before him, grief-bent casting down their eyes,
The moment's bubbling arrogance forced to
His lips his otherwise well-guarded heart.
Ye Sirs! he cried, *Look happier at th' event!*
A Prince you have, who, when it please him, has
Of wealth an ampleness to ransom you;
Yet when—which, as you see, is on the way—
Decked with th' Electoral purple, himself then
Franciscus steps into the Seven's ranks,
And you his banner then will follow—then
The change will profit only bring to you!
Lud. [*Greatly excited.*]
Franciscus in the Seven's rank? What? He
Said that?
Knt. He did on my salvation, Sir:—
Aye ev'ry lansquenet in Franz's camp
Swears loud his Lord will an Elector be—*or more!*
Lud. Farewell, irresolution! Banished is
Regard for all my other sentiments!
Franciscus! Does your bold ambition vault
So high as at th' Elect'ral purple aim?
Th' Elect'ral hat upon a head so turbulent?
My just suspicion rightly guided me.
Was *that* the purpose of the Landau gath'ring?
Oh, never, Franz! Now action is in time.
To Philip quickly fly; tell him from me
The treaties we concluded shall be observed;
Upon the spot my whole force shall I move;
Shall send him word where to connect with me.
He should remember ev'ry minute tells.
Speed! Speed away!
[*To his private Secretary.*]
A fresh horse furnish him.
Away, Sir Knight! Upon the storm's wings ride!
Knt. [*Bowing.*]
All hail to you, my Prince! Such gladsome news
Transforms me to an arrow. Place on that your trust!
[*Exit with the private secretary in great hurry.*]
Lud. The German *Brutus* people call you, Franz;
It now will ascertained be whether
You are *that* Brutus that victorious drove
Off Tarquin, or the one that, vainly manned,
Was in the end, his own life forced to take.
[*Exit precipitately.*]

SCENE II.—*Sickingen's camp before Treves.* COUNTS WILHELM VON FURSTENBERG, EITELFRITZ VON ZOLLERN *and* HARTMUTH VON KRONBERG *enter. Later* FROWIN VON HUTTEN.

Zol. I tell you we shall storm the town this day
For the last hours, Franz has riding been,
In semi-circle all along the walls.
Furs. It would too early be a repetition.
Zol. Perhaps it is to keep the priestly paunches
In perfect exercise. It never is
Too soon for me to start upon a storm.
Kron. To him who battles for his God, the heart
Is ne'er so light as when he ramparts scales.
[*Trumpets are heard from a distance.*]
Furs. Hark! Heard you that?
[*The trumpets repeat the signal louder.*]
It sounds like war's salute,
As if new squadrons marching came in camp.
Zol. Lo! Hither hastens towards us a knight.
Kron. It is Frowin!
[*Frowin von Hutten enters.*]
We greet you, friend in camp!
All. [*Drawing near.*]
God's greeting to you, Frowin von Hutten!
Frow. Thanks! Greeting to you. Sirs!
[*They shake hands.*]
Furs. You come at last!
You soon had come too late; but yet in time.
Frow. How mean you that?
Furs. In sev'ral ways. Had no
Sombreff his orders broke, you now had found
Us in possession of the town. It was
A stupid slip.
Zol. That matters not. Howe'er
The sweetheart bar the door, she still believes
Furs. I grant. But much blood had it saved us.
Kron. The blood that in God's honor flows, the lap
Of earth does fructify, and hallows our life.
Zol. And how would Frowin, not have grieved, had he
Too late arrived to dance!
Frow. Not earlier could
I come. The company's equipment held
Me long. But how stand things? I crave to know.
Furs. Have you not yet Franciscus seen?
Frow. I have
I met him on the hill over against
The town. His lancers' chiefs surrounded him.
He listened in great haste to my report,
To you referring me for news from him.
With him, behind, I left my cousin, and have hither hurried.
Zol. In few words the report I'll make. We've had
Two trial storms; and, if not much deceived,
You just in time are for the third attempt.
Frow. The bishop holds out well?
Zol. A full-fledged Mars.
Sticks in the priest. A pity of him! He swings
The sword as if it were a holy-water sprinkler.
Furs. And not less well does he the firebrand;
He burns down cloisters just as a Hussite.
Frow. *Cloisters*, the priest?
Zol. You know the abbey of
St. Maximin, the noble structure, that
Upon an eminence, near this town rose?
Not on th' archbishopric dependent, and
Placed under the protection of the realm,
It long had roused the bishop's envious longings
Frow. I know it well. A prime strategic spot,
For siege artillery to be set up.
Protected by its walls and courts, the town
Could from its height be swept.
Zol. Exactly so!
Now, then, two days before our own arrival, by
Sombreff allowed to slip through, th' Archbishop
Reached Treves. The first thing that he does—behold
How nicely Hate and Wisdom joined hands
To suit the priest—is, mindless of the cry
Raised by the monks, the abbey to tear down.
'Twas plundered. My bald-crowns were left free to
Remove to Treves. In war's accoutrement,
The firebrand in his own hand, the priest
In person led the work of demolition.
Furs. One of his mounted men quite worshipful
The torch took from his hand—*Your Worship*, said
The man, *leave that to me, whom better, than*
To such a pious man, becomes the work of arson!
[*They laugh.*]
Zol. That happened so! And what the fire did
Not burn the pick demolished. Just as with
The vanguard we arrived, the priest withdrew.
We only ruins found.
Frow. By that I Richard recognize!
Furs. You've heard from us. 'Tis now your turn for news,
How does it stand with Albrecht? Let us know!
Will he with open forces Franz support?
Frow. Oh, quite impossible, just now! What secretly
He can, that will he gladly do, and will
Continue doing; openly, however—
For that it is too early. I myself,
The racking doubts beholding that his mind
Assailed, stepped up to him and said—*Sir, I*
Return to you the seal I hold; I have
In all Franciscus' feuds participated,
And mean to do so now again, but not
As your Grandmaster and your Chamberlain.—
With his large eyes he looked me kindly in
The face and said—*Frowin, you are quite right;*
You know, I open keep your place, both at
My court and heart!
Furs. Does Franz know that? 'Twill grieve him sore!
Frow. It did not so. We need him not, said he
With calm indifference.
Zol. And he is right!
I think so too. We do not stand in need of him.
Frow. Then, with his shrewd smile said—*Th' Elector of*
Mayence will banquet but not cook with us!
For all that yet his place I'll honor at the feast.
Kron. [*Stepping to the rear.*]
There's Franz approaching.
Zol. Yes, indeed, and weighty tidings
It seems he brings. He is accompanied
By all the captains of the army.

SCENE III.—FRANZ *with* ULRICH VON HUTTEN *and captains of the army, among them* FRITZ SOMBREFF. *The former.*

Franz. I greet you, dear Sirs!
All. Franciscus, hail to you!
Franz. My noble Sirs, I come your views to take—
Shall we, to-day, a third time try a storm?
[*A single trumpet sounds without. All listen.*]
What was that?
Furs. On my soul, it sounded like
The signal for a parley.
Zol. Surely, not
The priest seeks to negotiate?
A Lansquenet. [*Entering.*] Sir, an
Imperial herald has arrived. He brings,
Says he, a mandate from the Emperor.
Franz. Then lead him hither!
[*Exit Lansquenet.*]
Once more shall I hear
The fiddle scratch of th' old régime—but then,
For the last time!

SCENE IV.—HERALD *preceded by the lansquenet. The former.*

Her. Whom, here, do I greet as Franz von Sickingen?
Franz. You stand before him.
Her. Franz von Sickingen!
In th' Emperor's and Reichstag's name, I have
A double mandate to announce—to you,
As well as to your army.
Franz To the end
That you may see the answer you'll receive
Proceeds, not from my orders, but the breasts
Themselves of these free men—
[*To the lansquenet.*] The captains of
My army call together, that each one
Himself may hear what him concerns.
Zol. We're now assembled.
Her. Captains!
Franz Herald, hold!
You presently shall have the floor.
[*Steps towards the group of captains standing opposite.*]
Where is
My Joerg von Augsburg?
Augs. [*Stepping forward.*] Sir!
Franz. Draw nearer, Joerg!
[*Whispers to him; Joerg nods; then louder to Joerg.*]
And when you're ready, let the trumpets blow;
The martial music shall my signal be.
[*Joerg withdraws with rapid steps. Franz steps again to the center where he had stood before.*]
Now, Herald, speak! Your message now commence.
Her. Ye Counts, ye Nobles, Knights and Captains, all
Of th' army that encamped is before Treves!
Thus speaks the Emp'ror Charles through me, this day:—
Revolt, and riot and a breach of peace
Is this war that Franciscus has involved
You in; against the realm's decrees; against
The Golden Bull and prescripts, issued by
Imperial Majesty. Therefore commands
The Emperor that forthwith to your homes
You back shall march, and back into its scabbard
Your wrath-inflamed swords return. Then will
He extend to you both grace and pardon. But
If not, the Reichstag's ban will fall on you—
Not merely heavy punishment in limb
And goods—no! If still further Franz's flag
You follow, then your heads will fall!—Thus swear
The Emperor.
[*Commotion among the knights and captains.*]
Franz. You've heard the threat of Charles.
Zol. We heard it, and to you shall faithful bide.
All. We follow Franz. His banner we will follow.
Zol. [*To Herald.*]
Go back and say that in Franciscus' camp
Men and not *milksops* you have found.
All. Hail, Franz, to you! We'll follow you till death!
Her. I now, Franciscus, turn my face to you!
The Emperor reminds you of his old
Affection; he reminds you of the grace
That he has e'er extended unto you.
You shall forthwith withdraw the army that
Assails his nephew and this sacred place.
If not, upon you too the ban will fall,
And forfeiture of his Imperial grace.
And if against th' Elector you have just
Cause of complaint, the realm's courts shall forthwith—
Himself Charles vouches therefor—to you
Full justice do. Thus runs my message. Weigh
It well. I anxiously your answer wait.
Franz. Go, herald, and unto your Lord announce:—
Gone by is now the time for words! Upon
The Gate of Time, with iron knuckles loud,
And big with fate, the hour decisive strikes.
This realm lies prostrate in convulsions. No
Nice flourishes of law can now the strife allay,
That shakes its frame!—Look yonder, herald! Do
You see yon pile of muskets and of cartridges?
From *their* throats such times as these their law
Tempestuous draw. In *my own* camp stands raised
The realm's high judgment seat. Myself I'll found
A powerful *new* order, and will dare
A deed to do——
Ne'er yet by Roman Emperor attempted!
[*The herald turns to go; at that moment martial music sounds without.*]
Hold, herald, take your answer to the end!
Hear you the bugles blow and trumpets bray?
They summon us—you, Sirs—to storm the walls!
Th' arrivals of the herald served, in lieu
Of martial council, quick the time to wink away.
Few hours more, and, herald, back to Charles
You'll take the greeting that *from* Treves Franz sends to him.
[*Draws his sword.*]
And now, Sirs, to the storm!
All. [*Drawing their swords.*] Aye to the storm!
Franz. Let *Luther and Franciscus* be the cry;
Myself will the first ladder place against the wall.
Somb. [*Stepping forward.*]
No, Sir! Allow that I the heavy debt
Now pay that weighs upon my breast. Mine be
The boon of the first ladder, Sir. Let me
Atone this day for what I did amiss.
If *not*, believe me, *alive* I'll not return.
Franz. [*Somberly.*]
I grant it, Sombreff. Many brothers' blood
Lies heavy upon your life; 'tis thine no more;
Go dash it 'gainst the walls of Treves. That which
Both sides now lose is gain—to you and us.
And now, Sirs, to the storm! The sun goes down
In blood. Oh, may her morning rays find us in Treves!
All. On, to the storm! On! *Luther and Franciscus!*
[*Exeunt all.*]

SCENE V.—*Market-place in Treves. It is night. The town burns in several places. The scene is lighted by the distant conflagrations. The bells are ringing. From time to time, the roar of cannon and crush of balls is heard. Women flee wringing their hands, and dragging their children after them, or carrying them in their arms.*

1st Woman. Oh, heaven! Ruined am I!
2nd Woman. [*Rushing in with a child in her arms.*]
Save yourselves!
The en'my's forcing in the Koritz gate!
3rd Woman. [*Rushing in with a little girl and distractedly looking round.*]
Fritz! Fritz! Where are you, Fritz! Oh, Jesus, Maria!
My child! My child!
[*Rushes back in the direction whence she came. From several sides crowds of townsmen enter tumultuously and grumbling, and armed with pikes, swords and battle-axes.*]
1st Town. We can hold out no longer.
One half the town is burning.
2nd Town. One hour more,
The foe will take the Simeon church. Depend on that.
3rd Town. The *foe?* What priestly cant is that you talk!
Is, then, Franciscus your foe, or mine?
His proclamation solemnly declares
He none fights but the priest. No townsman shall
In body suffer or in limb.
4th Town. Indeed, it is the doings of the priest
That we with blood and wealth are paying for.
3rd Town. Meseems, a stupid trade we ply to fight.
Against our interests, and to uphold
The priest's oppression.
Several Voices. Yes 'tis so! 'Tis true!
Other Voices. No! No! No!
4th Town. Silence! No dissensions here!
This much is sure. What Franz's 'gainst Richard has
Does not concern the town. Why, then, does not
His Worship with his nobles go outside,
And settle in the open field his feud
With Franz? Why does he, instead, defend himself
With our houses, that in flames go up?
Make *us* the scape-goats of his private quarrel?
Who of you is so priest-daft that he'd gladly,
In the bald-crown's quarrel, house and home, and wife
And child, and his own life to boot, fling in
The flames?
All. No! None!
Several Voices. We'll to the Bishop go!

SCENE VI.—*Enters the* ELECTOR-ARCHBISHOP RICHARD *with* COUNT SOLMS, *followed by a guard of lansquenets. The Archbishop is in full armor, his bare sword in his hand and helmet on head; over his armor the episcopal pallium.*

Arch. I tell you, Solms, beset am I with traitors;
At my own table sit these men—
[*Notices the crowd of townsmen, and steps towards them, who at his approach, draw back timid and grumbling.*]
What do you here? Why not upon the walls?
Is this a time to rest, your wide mouths fetch
Together? Off, with you! And quickly go!
[*Hollow murmur from the crowd of townsmen.*]
Several Voices. The town no longer can hold out!
Arch. Who grumbles?
4th Town. Worshipful Sir! Our property in vain
Goes up in flames. We think, if with the knights
Your worship would betake himself outside
The gates, and there offer to give battle,
That would preserve from total demolition
Your Worship's faithful town. The victory
Could surely not choose but fall upon
Your sanctified arms.
All. Yes, leave the town!
Arch. Ye pack of traitors! Lashes shall you have,
To take away your taste for mutiny.

Continued on Third Page.

Franz von Sickingen

Continued from Second Page.

SCENE VII.—*At the moment when the Archbishop rushes at the crowd of receding townsmen, a captain enters with a squad of soldiers dragging in a Sickingen lansquenet. The former.*

Capt. [*To Archbishop.*]
Sir Archbishop! This lansquenet we took.
With our slings we pulled him off the wall.
He might disclose the en'my's plans and strength.
Arch. [*To the lansquenet.*]
You've heard what's wanted. If your life you love
The information give. Step in my ranks.
Lans. I rather die in Franz's grace, than live
In Treves a priest's puppet.
A Soldier. Then die, you dog!
[*Stabs the lansquenet. A pause.*]
Arch. Remove that corpse!
[*The captain and soldiers withdraw with the corpse of the lansquenet and the Archbishop proceeds addressing the townsmen.*]
To you I say: that corpse
A warning be to you. A corpse I'll make
Whome'er suspicious acts. Now, to the walls!
3rd Town. [*Whispering to the 4th townsman.*]
Be careful; anger him not now—I'll tell
You more. We'll in the end enforce our plan.
Arch. At your gates, the best nobility
Is freely shedding from its princely veins
The ruddy stream of life, and *you* would save
Your low, plebeian blood? Would spare your mean
Existence when the fight is raging for
The holy things of earth? The pious monk
Himself, in sword-craft inexpert, his hands,
To prayer only used, puts to work,
Himself, self-sacrificing, in the jaws
Of death he throws, fights for his faith and God—
And you will think but of your earthly goods?
[*Approaching from a distance is heard a choral song of monks singing the first strophe of a hymn.*]
CHORAL. FIRST STROPHE.
Spe mercedis et coronae
Stetis martyr in agone
Ad mortem obediens
Morte Christum imitatus
Fide firmus et firmatus
Firmo greffu gradiens.
Arch. [*When the strophe ends, turning again to the townsmen.*]
Behold, the pious soldiers are approaching,
Decided, cheerful, a second wall
To raise around the town with their brave hearts.
[*The procession of monks enters and marches across the place carrying banners and other church insignia, and singing the second strophe of the choral.*]
CHORAL. SECOND STROPHE.
Furit furor militaris
Ut vir sacer sacris aris
Immoletur hostia
Quem occidunt saevientes
Introducunt nescientes
Ad aeterna guadia.
[*At the appearance of the procession, the Archbishop and all those present fall upon their knees; singing the second strophe of the choral, the procession passes slowly over the place, halting now and then. After the procession has passed, the Archbishop and all the others rise.*]
Arch. [*Stretching out his arms in benediction.*]
Rise, strengthened by the blessing from on high!
The Lord of Hosts himself fights on our side,
And parries from your head the en'my's sword;
The Holy Virgin marches on before,
She looks at you with her celestial eyes.
Blessed who *this* day sheds his blood! Such death,
Like our Lord's own blood, the sinner's sins
And errors wipes away. The Gates of Glory
The paradise of joy, are opened wide to him
The angels meet him singing songs of praise,
And lead him to the right hand of God's throne,
Illumined by th' eternal splendor of His light!
Up, then, and to the walls! I'll lead you on.
For battle cry, invoke the Holy Virgin!
All. On to the walls! Treves and the Holy Virgin!

SCENE VIII.—*The camp before Treves. Morning is slowly dawning. Lansquenets enter carrying the deadly wounded* SOMBREFF; *later* ULRICH VON HUTTEN.

Somb. Lay me down here. 'Tis one where I shall die.
1st Lans. 'Twill not be quite so bad, Sir Knight; I'll bring you help.
Somb. I am past hope. Return and fight your best.
[*Ulrich enters with armed men.*]
2nd Lans. Who comes! The pass-word—
Ulrich. Luther and Franciscus!
Somb. [*Painfully raising himself on his elbow.*]
You, Hutten, here?
Ulrich. Fritz Sombreff! Wounded sore?
Somb. To death!
Ulrich. Poor friend! Your promise well you've kept!
Somb. How stands the fight? Oh, let me know!
Ulrich. Still undecided
The scales are trembling! Hither from
The Mosel gate I come, where we the foe's
Terrific sally bloodily repelled.
Before his men th' Archbishop himself fought;
At him dashed Franz, whose lightning sword, the priest
Pursuing, and whom Mars snatched off, mowed down
Relentlessly the thick-set ranks of the
Resisting foe! But, now, farewell! I hasten
Towards the Simeon gate, where Franz, the town
There closely pressing, has upon his hands
The en'my's heaviest force. Farewell, and do
Not take it ill if now I leave you alone,
Obedient to war's barbarous behest.
Somb. Oh, but one moment more, with a few words
Be pleased to soothe my life's last breath! How stood
Thinks at the Koritz gate? A rumor flew
Across the ranks that it had taken been!
Ulrich. There, Death's own image, black von Zollern,
The club swings that in his hands fully out-does
The scythes of two of th' en'my's most deadly reapers.
As he his men against the wall was leading,
Upon th' assailants' heads fell such a stream
Of boiling oil and melted lead, that loud
The men yelled, dropped the ladder, and fled back.
Yet he, with not a call their flight rewarding,
As if alone he meant to take the town,
The heavy ladder lifts, and up its rungs
With rapid strides he climbs. At such a sight,
The men are seized with shame, that hotter burned
Than melted fire; they turn about and dash
After their leader. Wounded in the right,
In his left hand he takes the sword and fights
On as before. The ladder breaks beneath
His closely following men, that forward pressed
To second him—but all the while I speak
The minutes flee.—Hark! Signals—Heard you that?
[*A long drawn signal sounds from afar.*]
Somb. They're sounding a retreat! The storm is stopped—
Let with it end the remnant of this life.
[*Falls back and dies.*]

SCENE IX.—FRANZ *and suite, later* FURSTENBURG, ZOLLERN, FROWIN, AUGSBURG *and other captains and knights.*

Franz. The generals call hither! Rest we of
The storm, that breathless all night long has raged.
[*Exit several men; he notices Ulrich.*]
You, Ulrich, here!
[*Embraces him.*] I felt concerned for you,
When from each other, driven by the wave
Of rushing men, you tumbled were upon
Their bloody arms. You see, the grim priest will
Not cheaply part with his Elect'ral hat.
[*Enters the generals sent for.*]
I greet you, Sirs! A circle make around me.
The morning's pale light breaks, and rest require
The wholly exhausted troops, who, without let,
Have eight long hours through pools of blood been wading,
And 'gainst the town's walls dashed themselves. I, hence,
Have torn you from your mowing labors, here
To council take, whether forthwith, upon
A short rest's respite, we the battle shall
Resume, or shall defer till our cannons
A wider path have broke. Ye captains and
Ye nobles of this army, speak your minds
As freely as becomes a chief to speak.
Zol. [*With his right hand in a sling, his sword in his left.*]
I am for storming!—'Twere a shame if we
This night should fail to rest and sleep in Treves
Furs. Sir, softly! Anger carries you away.
'Tis coolness that befits a gen'ral's council.
The storm was ordered much too soon; too firm—
We've found it out—are still the stubborn walls;
We vainly sacrifice our men; the town
Can now no more escape our hands; but yet
The cannons' fiery pounding needed is
To soften her, and in her heart the way
To clear for our storm's successful issue.
Frow. And so think I. The town is lost. But only if
The way we break for our assault, obedient to
The settled rules of siege.
Zol. The sword breaks ways
To him that knows to wield it.
Augs. Sirs, allow
That now I venture in this council of
The army's chiefs the word to take. You know
Me, Sir! I fought the battles of the realm,
With th' Emp'ror Max I camped in Welschland,
I stood—
Franz. We all know you, my sturdy Joerg,
You are the army's chief of ordnance, and
Since wars I've waged, none better do I know.
Augs. Well, then, now listen—
So long as we no breach into the walls
Have shot, you vainly dash your army's head
Against the bulwark. It is much too strong,
Its garrison too large, and it is too
Well generalled! Of these *three*, two we might
O'ercome, not all the three *combined*. Impossible!
And now, Sir knight, if my advice you'll take,
I pledge myself, before eight days have run
Their course, and simply by my ordnance now
Upon but few points centering, to ope
Two breaches in the town—the North gate and
The West—Give then the order for the storm!
The town will helpless at you mercy fall
Into your warm victorious arms.
A Lansquenet. My general!
This minute, while myself and others three
Stood sentinel along the bastion, from
Within the walls an arrow flew and fell
At our feet. We found a note attached
To th' arrow, and this inscription did it bear:—
To the most puissant knight, Franciscus.
Franz. [*To Joerg.*]
From th' arrow cut and read the note to us.
Augs. [*Reading.*]
"Worshipful Sir Knight! It is a friend who writes to you, and if he is not your friend, he would be your enemy, which, may God stand by me, is like saying an enemy of himself and of every honorable Christian, and a friend of these thick-skinned, money-greedy, man-skinning priests, whom he loves as much as your bullets love them when, out of sympathy, your bullets walk into their bodies in front, and, out of antipathy, walk out again at their backs, a magnificent spectacle, that he will never forget it was you, may God reward you therefor, who to-day furnished him several times. If you take the town, and your Grace deigns him the favor, he requests that you may carry it out upon the bald-crowns whom you have sentenced to be hanged, and to execute it upon those whom, perhaps, you mean to let go. Now, to the point. You have friends in the town, and people who are favorable. But it is still too early. You must curb your impatience, and be nicely quiet for a while. Because the garrison is still too numerous, and the papists are still making too much of an outcry. But the burghers have not yet the necessary courage. But if you shoot down their houses eight days longer, you will bring it to a favorable issue. Therefore, have patience, Sir Knight, because every ball that falls in here carries away one of your enemies, and makes you one more friend. You will hear further from me, and I am negotiating about a little gate. When a week is over, you will become personally acquainted with me, and do not then forget my favor!"
[*General laughter among all present.*]
An eloquent epistle!
Zol. Quite an assiduous knave!
Franz. You're all agreed to a postponement?
All. Yes, we are!
Franz. Thus, with or without letter—this a ruse
Of th' enemy may be—'tis my view also.
Return the army to its old positions;
With increased force the murd'rous cannonade
We shall renew.
Augs. Aye, Sir; but 'tis the third
Time, now, I warn you that we powder lack.
You promised sev'ral days ago th' arrival
Of fresh kegs, ordered by you from Landstuhl.
'Tis pressing, the supply can last but few days m
Franz. Joerg, worry not! I know not how it happens
The transport is so long in coming. But
To-day it surely will arrive. Meantime,
No powder spare!

SCENE X.—*A lansquenet followed by two messengers; the former.*

Lans. Two messengers have, Sir,
Just now arrived, with hurried news for you.
First Mes. [*Stepping forward.*]
Sir, blame me not if now I bring to you
Unwelcome news. The knight of Renneberg,
Who in Cleves and Julich men for you recruited,
Has sent me here. An edict of the duke,
That threatens loss of fief and life to him
Who joins your forces, quickly checked the flood
That poured into the knight's encampment. Dashed
Against that dam, that broke their further increase,
The raw recruits lost courage and dispersed.
2nd Mess. The same thing I report to you from Limburg,
Westphalia and the district of Cologne,
In all of which, with equal threats, th' Archbishop
Prevents th' escape of riders to your camp.
[*Indignation among the nobles.*]
Franz. [*Scornfully.*]
Behold how expeditiously and harmonious
Are all at once these Princes, otherwise
So wrangling and deliberative! Why,
It borders on a miracle! I barely
This good sword from its sheath have drawn, to pound
Them into one, and—not since stands the realm
I such a case recall!—lo, smilingly
My wishes granting, there they come and hop
To meet me!—Such a willingness is half
The victory; deserves to be recorded.
My thanks for your *good* tidings!
[*Exit messengers, and Franz turns to the captains and knights.*]
Who of you
Needs sharers in fame and booty? Who
So poorly holds himself as to believe
He's not enough?
All [*Enthusiastically.*]
Not one! Franz,, thrice enough
Are we so long your spirit guides our arms!
Franz. My thanks!
Frow. [*Almost simultaneously.*]
Who's that, with rapid steps approaching?
His roaming eyes denotes he looks for someone.
Horseman. [*Enters in haste.*]
You are Franciscus! Sir, I recognize you!
I'm one of Michael Minckwitzk' riders, who
From Brunswick marched with a company
Of horse and fifteen hundred foot, whom he
For you recruited. Unexpectedly
We're fall'n upon, with overpow'ring force,
By Philip, Hesse's landgrave; scatters us
Apart; arrests the knight Minckwitz himself;
And takes our chest.—I rode my horse to death
To bring you timely notice.
Franz. [*Aside to Joerg.*]
Badly seem
The sentinels their duty to conceive,
That they lead not these messengers aside
Into my tent. It is not well that here,
Before th' assembled captains of my army
This chase of messengers of evil penetrates
To me.—
[*Exit Joerg and returns shortly; Franz proceeds addressing the horseman.*]
I doubt not your great haste. Had you but *stood*
As firmly as you *ran*, you would have back
To Darmstadt whimp'ring sent the baby Philip.
Hors. The bringer of bad news must ever ready be
To have his hearer's anger fall upon
His head. And yet I must increase it still
With still worse news: with forced marches hither
Himself the landgrave Philip's hastening
To Treves' relief.
[*Commotion among the nobles and captains.*]
Franz. Ye, Sirs, victory!
[*To the horseman.*]
You are a cunning fellow, who the bad
Beginning of his tale knows good again
To make with its conclusion's golden words!
A horse and better weapons furnish him.
[*To the nobles.*]
In vain I studiously was seeking how
To entice th' Archbishop from the town. We now
May trust, does Philip come, he could no more
Contain himself within! To help the helper,
The priest will venture in the open field.
One blow will then destroy them *both*, provided
Our swords are still the same, and opes the town
To us.
Frow. [*Impetuously drawing his sword.*]
Hail, Franz, 'Gainst Philip lead us! Vict'ry
Is by your banner us assured.
All. [*With sword up.*] Hail, Franz!
Kurt. [*Outside.*]
Keep *me* back from my master? Me, who these
Four days have racing been with minutes swift
To find him so much sooner? Lumb'ring scamp!
[*Enters dragging in two lansquenets who seek to keep him back, and whom he finally throws off; he drops at Franz's feet with all the signs of exhaustion.*]
Oh, dear master!—Finally I have you!
Franz. How, Kurt? Is't you? What brings you here? I left you
At Landstuhl, charged with Balthasar the burg
To keep. What do you here? Come, Kurt, speak up!
Kurt. [*Gasping for breath.*]
Sir, right away—wait—can no more—I am
No longer the old Kurt—'tis now four days—
I have become a grey hound—
Franz. Bring a cup
Of wine to brace him up.
Kurt. A new lung, rather—
I wish they'd fetch me—Sir—the old one, much
I fear—I ran—to pieces—
[*A lansquenet fetches a goblet; Kurt seizes it with both hands and drains it at one gulp.*]
Ah, e'en new lungs
Reside in bumpers!
Franz. Now! Will you now speak?
Kurt. Yes, Sir—at Landstuhl, as you said, you left me,
With Balthasar o'er me. He joined me to
The convoy that the powder kegs conveyed
To you.
Franz. And what delayed the transport? Speak!
Kurt. We had not gone a full day's march, when us,
In peace—and without warning of a feud—
The palsgrave fell upon, and all the kegs
As booty took—
Franz. [*Enraged.*] The *palsgrave* did you say?
Thou *liest*, man!
Kurt. I, lie, Sir? Hear me further!
He threw us down; made us his prisoners;
But that's not all, Sir! At the head of a
Strong army he is hast'ning hither 'gainst
You. Three days more, and he'll be where now
I stand. He dragged us bound behind him. But
I managed to escape. I ran myself to death,
To bring you timely warning. Wait you here—
You'll then see whether 'tis a lie.
Franz. [*Who listened with utter indignation and with consternation, to Ulrich.*]
That, *that* went to my heart!—Of all the princes,
Him only did I love, to him alone
My heart beat trustingly. In *blood* the bonds
Of steel were tempered that united him
To me. A rebel for his sake against
Th' Imperial Majesty, and out of *loyalty*
To him, my father braved the scaffold: him
To shield, his noble head laid down upon
The block. The loyalty, baptized in
My father's blood, I sacredly preserved:—
And thus the son of Schweickhardt he rewards;
Rewards *me* thus! Of all things but for *that*
Was I prepared! Him only as a foe
I ne'er believed to see.—
Now, shattered lie my plans! With one fell blow
Both human kindness and the ingenuity
Of man are crushed by vile Princes' pride!
[*While Ulrich embraces him with deepest sympathy, he steps back into the ranks, where, since Kurt's report, murmurs and commotion had increased.*]
Furs. Meseems the game puts on an ugly face.
We're lost if here for them we longer wait.
Frow. No more so than if we retreat: if we
Retreat, th' Elector surely will pursue us.
Zol. You may depend, that he will surely do.
Frow. Pursued, surrounded by a triple army—
How would you your retreat effect? What say you?
Zol. I? I say not a word! Escape I see
As little as yourself.
Franz. [*Who has stood the while with his arms crossed, again steps forward.*]
Who says we're lost?
Aye, what's lost? Are you men or worshippers
At strumpet Fortune's shrine? Wilt woo her when
She smiles, and tremble at her fickle frown?
The strong man forces her, a slave unto
His will, her willing smile to give again.
Not at the *end*, we stand here at the *start*
Of our power and our purposes.
A triple army threatens us—aye, *worse*,
The want of powder. Yes, we must decamp.
I'll lead you through the mountain steeps, and bring
You safe behind the foe. Woe to him,
Who'd dare my retreat to bar! To save
His army is a general's first duty.
Your minds you may make free; encroach not on
Franciscus' cares and office. Once the foe
The slip we've given, I'll disband the bulk
Of th' army—
Furs. What! Disband the army while
Those three remain in arms against yourself?
Franz. How could I such an army winter in my burgs?
Or should I quarter them upon my friends,
And thus, before the struggle is begun,
Consume their means? Besides, it does not press
This year. Winter's breaking in. They'll ne'er
At such a season, dare the Ebernburg
To approach. Before, howe'er, the army I
Disband, the pledge I'll take from all the captains
That, with the first rays of the spring's warm sun,
Equipped, and strengthened with new levies, all
The squadrons they shall lead back in *my* camp.
Furs. But what propose you with the palsgrave to—
Franz. Twelve noble youths upon their swords' point shall
To him from Sickingen the challenge bear—
Renounce my further fealty to him.
[*To Ulrich*]
You, Ulrich, I will send to mighty Zurich,
Whose brave confederates their help have long
Been proffering to me, if ever needed.
I need it now! There, where you loved and honored
Are, press the proffered help. Lead to my burgs
Strong files of yon axe-wielding, brave reserves.
[*To the knights.*]
With you I shall a day appoint at Schweinfurt;
Assemble there with your kith and kin;
The whole nobility I will convene
To a conference. It is for you now true
To prove that which at Landau you did swear.
Our federation's members all must arm themselves;
To arms I'll call the Nation's full knighthood!
All. Rely on us, as on yourself you would!
Franz. A trial only was this slight campaign.
Next year we'll execute the final work!
Exposed is now the hand of our foes.
A clear line now parts enemy from friend.
The vict'ry's ours, provided true to you
Your former valor keeps. We *now* our full
Strength will deploy, and did not so before.
The winter for recruiting utilize—
A signal unto all the new sun be.
The first breath of returning spring shall both
Of winter's ice and tyrants' chain emancipate
Our country's soil.—The new year brings a Nation new.
All. The new year, hail! and hail your steady fortune!
[*The curtain closes.*]

TO BE CONTINUED.

BUSINESS DEPT. NOTES

Three hundred and forty-six subscriptions to The Weekly People were received during the week ending April 30, an increase of ten over the previous week. These increases every week indicate that the comrades are being roused to activity and intend to put up a hard fight during the coming campaign.

About six months ago a solicitor, who worked in East St. Louis, Ill., secured a large number of subscribers. At the present time all these subscriptions are expiring; the members of the Section there, although only a few, have gone around and visited every last one of these subscribers and asked them to renew their subscriptions. The results accomplished have been published in these columns each week, and must have been very encouraging to our workers in other places. This week Comrade Jenning sends in twenty-five more.

It is well to send a solicitor through a city, but the new readers gained through a solicitor must be followed up later on, as has been done in East St. Louis. They should be asked to renew, and the good material sifted out and brought into our organization. We venture to say that in the near future Section East St. Louis will be much stronger than it is now, as a result of the good work that is being done there. It would be still more encouraging to see more Sections putting forth the same amount of effort.

Comrade Dennis McGoff, of New Bedford, Mass., is attending to the interests of The Weekly People in his city. He sends in a list of fifteen subs.

Section Boston forwards a list of thirteen, St. Louis, Mo., fourtten, Salt Lake City, Utah, eleven, and Section London, Ont., ten.

Comrade Goodwin continues his work in Southern California. He sent in twenty subs. during the week.

Comrade McGinniss, of Chicago, secured thirteen; M. Meyer, of Detroit, seven; Martin Aul, Brooklyn, six; C. U. Starkenberg, Chicago, six, and A. Rutstein, of Yonkers, five.

In Greater New York the Thirty-fourth A. D. heads the list, as usual, with eighteen. The Twelfth, Brooklyn, has eleven; Fourth and Tenth, Brooklyn, seven, and the Thirty-fifth, New York, six.

Twenty-nine dollars' worth of sub. cards were sold.

Comrade Boland, of Troy, N. Y., orders twenty-five copies of the Sunday People, for which a boy has been engaged to go out on the street and sell every Sunday.

Another five-dollar lot of subscription cards will be offered as a prize next week to the comrade securing the largest number of Weekly subs. All subs. reaching this office between Monday, May 9, and Saturday, May 14, will be counted. Here is a chance to show what our hustlers can do.

Let us increase the increase! On to 500 a week!

WEEKLY PEOPLE
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P. O. Box 1576. Tel. 129 Franklin.

Published Every Saturday by the Socialist Labor Party.

Entered as second-class matter at the New York postoffice, July 13, 1900.

As far as possible, rejected communications will be returned, if so desired, and stamps are enclosed.

SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES:

In 1888	2,068
In 1892	21,157
In 1896	36,564
In 1900	34,191
In 1902	53,763

Men live to work under capitalism. Under Socialism they would work to live.

A NEW CHAIR FACTORY.

The San Francisco "Chronicle" of the 17th of April has an account of the banquet given the day before by the officers of the First Battalion of Artillery, National Guard of California, at the St. Francis Hotel. "The feature of the evening's festivity," says the "Chronicle," "was General MacArthur's address.." What did the general say?

The gist of Gen. MacArthur's address is found in two of its sentences. The first:

"The country is on the eve of great industrial disturbance, a convulsion in society is inevitable."

Arguing up from these premises the general reached his second decisive sentence:

"'One of the most essential of the moving forces which are molding and shaping the destinies of the nation is a well-organized militia in every State of the Union."

If it is an accident, it is one of those providentially contrived accidents that the general's address was delivered in a neighboring State to Colorado and at a time when the militia of that State cannot be denied the glory of "molding and shaping" things—it has suspended the writ of habeas corpus, it has exiled people, it has disbanded courts, in short it "molded and shaped" conditions in a way that would have turned Atila the Hun green with envy.

General MacArthur may be right and he may be wrong as to the final success of the militia in "shaping and molding;" but if he is right, then what the militia has been actually turned into is a furniture factory, with chairs or seats as a specialty—the kind of seats that Horace Greeley had in mind when he said that "bayonets are an uncomfortable and intolerable seat for the Goddess of Liberty."

NOW 'TIS JOHNSON.

Even the most despicable criminal is given the benefit of the law, and is protected in all that he is entitled to. Pursuant to this elevated principle of civilization we shall protest against the wrong done to, and shall afford the protection that civilization guarantees, even to William Johnson, the so-called Socialist, alias Social Democratic Alderman of Chicago, who has just been expelled by his party in that city for "graft" and corrupt conduct in office.

That Johnson would indulge in such practices we knew in advance, and said so when his party was rending the welkin with shouts of a "Socialist Victory." We knew it could not be otherwise. And just because we knew it, and the very reasons that pointed to the result, strip Johnson's organization of the right of now hounding him. In fact, Johnson is a victim and he it is who should hurl upon his would-be expellers the defamatory terms that they now seek to bury him under—not they upon him.

Johnson is but the product of the Chicago combine that calls itself "Socialist Party." He was "raised" into "Socialism" by them. From the turpitudinous "A. M. Simons, Editor," down, or up, the Chicago "Socialist" party organization has lived on fasehood and swindle and graft and personal vanity and the enviousness characteristic of whipper-snapper souls. Their "principles" were a congeries of false pretences making common cause with the labor fakir, calling his treason to labor a "noble waging of the class struggle," and they are so many resounding boards for the defamation of the Socialist Labor Party, whose every putrid and expelled member they welcome as a sweet-scented flower. Breathing that atmosphere of swindle, what else was Johnson to become in office but what he did become?

By convicting Johnson the Chicago so-called Socialist party convicted itself. Theirs the blame, not his. The poor man deserves pity. He is lost forever, but he is lost not wholly through his own fault. Graft, corruption in office, fraud, in short—that is what he was taught by a rabble rout—whom in the innocence of his unsophisticated soul he took for Socialists—to consider as Socialism. He but practiced what in one way or other what his masters are habitually practicing.

If these bogus Socialists begin to expel where will they stop—where can they stop? It will be a case of cutting off the dog's tail right under his ears.

FIRST EPISTLE AT THE LAMBERTIANS.

The New York "Freeman's Journal and Catholic Register" of April 16 contains a four-column article by its Editor, Father L. A. Lambert against Socialism. The article is in answer to the letter of a critic, who found fault with a previous assault of Father Lambert's upon Socialism. The Editor takes his critic's letter subject by subject. So shall we now the Rev. Editor, though not in one continuous, but in a series of articles—epistles, of which this is the first.

Father Lambert having in his original assault on Socialism claimed that Socialists would lodge the ownership of the instruments of production in the State, his critic found fault with the term, and called that the setting up of a man of straw. Meeting the charge, Father Lambert says:

"Had we said 'the State as now constituted' there would have been reason for the charge of straw."

If these eighteen words, constructed as they are above, mean anything, they mean:

First, that the State "as now constituted" is essentially, fundamentally different from the State as proposed by Socialism,—so different that if a critic were to say that Socialists would lodge the ownership of the instruments of production in "the State as now constitued," even so serious a charge as that of setting up a man of straw would be justified against him;

Second, that a critic of Socialism, addressing an audience, that is uninformed upon Socialism, may with propriety use a term that his audience understands in one way—the common, everyday prevalent way—while himself is understanding it in another way—a special way;

Third, that ownership of the means of production, even if vested in that new organism contemplated by Socialism, and which the critic would designate, simply for the sake of designation, as "the State," would fail to bring the beneficent results expected by Socialism.

We shall take up to-day the first of the above three inferences from Father Lambert's sentence.

No doubt the Socialist "State" is essentially different from the capitalist state—as essentially different as would be the Russian battle ship Petropavlovsk, recently sunk off Port Arthur, if it were raised and turned into an excursion boat to give the thousands upon thousands of foundlings, spewed up by the pillar-of-the-family capitalist system and crowded together in unsanitary barracks, a chance to inhale some ozone. So different would the new ship be that the ugly charge of setting up a man of straw would stick to the person who were to say that the new ship was just as the other.

But, lo, what sentence is that that assails the eye on the very next column? Father Lambert there says:

"The conception, then, of the present State and of the Socialist State is not entirely or essentially different."

!!!

First one is told that so essentially different is the State as projected by Socialism, from "the State as now constituted" that it would be like putting up a man of straw to assail Socialism by claiming that the Socialist State was a State "as now constituted," and the very next column one is told that the two States are not essentially different!!! The latter dictum may be true, but then the first, together with the whole sentence in which it appears, is false—there would be no "man of straw" charge applicable. The two can not go together.

We shall not in this first epistle at the Lambertians enter upon the question of which of the two views is the correct one. That will come later. For the present it is enough to be aware of the irreconcilable contradiction in Father Lambert's exposition. The dose must be a bull's dose of that "deference and submission" to the priest, even upon worldly matters, as Father Kress and the Father Kresses demand, for one to fail to realize that the person who can reason as incoherently as Father Lambert is here convicted of, whatever else his opinions may deserve, they surely are undeserving of "deference and submission" upon so important a subject as social institutions. Upon that vital subject to man, Father Lambert shows himself mentally disqualified to argue.

The disqualification will be further illustrated in the next epistles at Lambertians, and the illustrations will help to illustrate the soundness of Socialism.

LO, THE POOR INVENTOR!

Whenever the position of a defender of capitalism against the attacks of Socialism becomes desperate, he drags forth the inventor. "What are you going to do with the inventor, the man whose genius has created the great machines which make wealth and civilization possible? Are you going to despoil him—to rob him?"

To this the Socialist generally retorts by showing that it is capitalism that robs the inventor, and he proves his case by indisputable evidence culled from court records. But times are changing, so much so, that it may be said that the individual inventor has become as much of a myth as the individual captain of industry—the great Overman who, it is alleged, directs the works of thousands of wage slaves. To-day industry is so rammified, so collosal, that it is an impossibility for one man to direct it. Corps of trained subordinates, executive, engineering, and other boards, meet in frequent consultation to devise ways and means for the safe conduct of the consolidated industries over which they preside; so much so, that when the great Overman goes off to Monte Carlo on a carouse, industry continues as though he never breathed. And so, it is with the inventor. Invention has become social in scope and methods. With the various branches of industry so closely related, the mechanical changes in one branch of production must be considered in their relation to other branches. The result is that to-day, the inventor is no longer an isolated being, developing himself and his ideas in some dismal garret. The inventor is to-day the product of a scientific school or a great establishment, which, while specializing his abilities, has given him a well-rounded education. The inventor is to-day a part of a corps of technical experts, men rarely heard of outside their own spheres, who, with the finest mechanical equipments and extensive chemical laboratories at their command, work in co-operative unison for the production of new and interrelated inventions, and the improvement of old ones. The inventor to-day is one of the multitude of workingmen who are asked to drop suggestions for improvements in boxes placed about the factories in which they work; suggestions that have, in the aggregate, produced new types of machines and so transformed the original inventions as to make them entirely new creations; suggestions that have immensely enriched the capitalists to whom they were given, while the reward of the workingmen making them was a few paltry prizes, which are far from being commensurate in value with the things they are supposed to represent.

The poor lone inventor whom Socialism would rob (sic), is a myth, and, like all myths, is adorned with the poetry of by-gone ages. Like modern industry, modern invention is social. And since the social character of industry demands the social ownership of the means of production and distribution forming its basis, so does the social nature of invention demand the social ownership of its creations.

Lo, the poor inventor!—as a capitalist shield he is played out!

The plan to divert immigration to the South is not by any means primarily for the benefit of the immigrant, or the community to which he is being sent. The "Manufacturers' Record" publishes a letter from Greenville, Miss., in which an interview with Le Roy Percy, a local capitalist, is given. Among other statements made by Percy there appears the following:

"In conjunction with my partner, Mr. O. B. Crittenden, I have had for six years the management and control of what is known as the Austin Corbin Planting property, situated in Chicot County, Ark., of which something more than 4,000 acres are in cultivation, and more than one-half of this property is worked by Italian labor. As growers of cotton they are in every respect superior to the negro. If the immigration of these people is encouraged, they will gradually take the place of the negro without there being any such violent change as to paralyze for a generation the prosperity of the country."

The boom, in so far as it relates to such planting interests, is primarily in favor of that corporate form of agriculture which is fast reducing the American farmer to the level of a factory hand, making him a dependent on the lands and implements of others, and dividing the farming population into the two opposing classes of employer and employe. As such, the boom is primarily intended to secure more profitable and abundant labor to Southern capitalism.

The New York "Commercial" has the following to say about Francis L. Robbins, who led the bituminous operators in inducing Mitchell to force the miners to accept the recent reduction:

"Dreaded labor organizations that have upset the calculations of many a commercial conquest have few friends like Francis L. Robbins, of Pittsburg. As president of the Pittsburg Coal Company and the Monongahela River Consolidated Coal & Coke Company, he is the employer of more organized workmen than any corporation in the world. Like Mark Hanna, he has had bitter tilts with labor unions. It cost him probably a million or two to learn how to deal with them. It would not be possible to agree with this vast body of miners, however, unless the miners were represented by officials with whom it is possible to do business. Mr. Robbins probably knows this better than any other man."

The miners will find much of significance in this to reflect upon. The capitalists understand the importance of the labor fakir far better than the working class.

According to a Scranton, Pa., despatch of April 25:

"Four days ago the owners of the Katydid Colliery, at Moosic, announced that hereafter their men must mine 3,300 pounds of coal for a ton. A strike resulted. Yesterday morning the company printed a statement in a Scranton paper that it had decided to abandon the mine, dismantle the breaker and remove the machinery.

"A few hours after this paper made its appearance a committee of miners called upon the company's officials and accepted the terms, with slight modifications as to details. Work will be resumed to-morrow."

It will now be in order for the gentlemen who denounce "the tyranny and coercion of the trade union" to applaud this method of securing "the freedom of labor."

A little item tucked away in the corner of a newspaper reads as follows:

"On the Denver, Northwestern & Pacific, Moffat Line, over 6,000 feet of rails were recently laid in a little less than five hours by 86 men with two engines working the track-laying machine. This is understood to break all records for such work on a mountain road."

Such a task would formerly have required thousands of men and many months, hence this little item reflects the ease with which man now creates wealth in abundance, while saving time and displacing labor. When labor owns the machines it will get the benefit of it, instead of suffering loss of employment, as at present.

The war in the Far East has led a few U. S. Senators to declare that battleships are obsolete.

"There is danger of this war showing to us that we have got a bad investment in the $150,000,000 we have in battleships," says Senator Hale.

This is a feature of capitalism. Its evolution is destructive of much wealth and capital; far more wealth than was destroyed by the vandals of old, and far more capital than could be destroyed by Socialism, according to the wildest utterances of its opponents.

The scarcity of work and depression in England are weekly driving 2,000 persons from that country to Canada. The same causes drove over 100,000 recent immigrants to this country back to Europe last fall. Capitalist conditions produce uniform results wherever they abound. In this respect, capitalism knows no nationality or flag.

JAPANESE SOCIALISTS

Send Greetings to Their Russian Comrades—"Workmen of All Countries, Unite!"

From "The Heimin Shimbun,"
(A Weekly Journal of Socialist Propaganda, of Tokio, Japan)
Sunday, March 20, 1904.

TO THE SOCIALISTS IN RUSSIA.

Dear Comrades:

For many years we have been hearing of you and thinking about you, though we have not yet had an opportunity to shake hands and talk cheerfully with you, being separated from you by many thousand miles. Twenty years have already passed since you began to preach the great principle of humanity in 1884 under the banner of Social Democracy. During that time the persecutions of a despotic government and the cruel action of detectives have been such as has never before been seen. Your predecessors passed through the bitterest trials, having forsaken fame and fortune; and those who were shut up in prisons, exiled in desolate Siberia or who perished on scaffolds were numberless. In spite of this your agitation was not checked even in the slightest degree but your courage always increased a hundred-fold after each persecution. It was last year that the several bodies of socialists throughout Russia were united in strong organization and since then socialism has become an immense power. We express our hearty sympathy for you in your hard situation and at the same time admire your abiding faith in principle.

Dear Comrades! Your government and our government have plunged into fighting at last in order to satisfy their imperialistic desires, but to socialists there is no barrier of race, territory or nationality. We are comrades, brothers and sisters and have no reason to fight each other. Your enemy is not the Japanese people, but our militarism and so-called patriotism. Nor is our enemy the Russian people, but your militarism and so-called patriotism. Yes, patriotism and militarism are our common enemies; nay, all the socialists in the world also look upon them as common enemies. We socialists must fight a brave battle against them. Here is the best and the most important opportunity for us now. We believe you will not let this opportunity pass. We, too, will try our best.

But permit us to say a few words more. We are neither Nihilists nor Terrorists, but Social Democrats, and are always fighting for peace. We object absolutely to using military force in our fighting. We have to fight by peaceful means; by reason and speech. It may be very difficult for you to fight with speech and produce a revolution by peaceful means in Russia where there is no constitution, and consequently you may be tempted to overthrow the government by force. But those who are fighting for humanity must remember that the end does not justify the means.

We can not foresee which of the two governments shall win in fighting, but whichever gets the victory, the results of the war will be all the same—general misery, the burden of heavy taxes, the degradation of morality and the supremacy of militarism. Therefore the most important question before us is not which government shall win, but how soon can we bring the war to an end. The determination of the International Workmen's League in its agitations in the time of the Franco-Prussian War gave us a good lesson. We are comrades, brothers and sisters; and have no reason why we should fight. The fiend, our common enemy, is now breathing poisonous fire in order to torment millions of people. As Karl Marx said: "Workmen of all nations! Unite!" so we socialists must join our hands in order to do our best.

Dear Comrades! When you suffer under the oppression of your government and the pursuit of cruel detectives, please remember that there are thousands of comrades in a distant land, who are praying for your health and success with the deepest sympathy.

* * *

The litho. aftermath is now being heard from. John W. Parker, the representative of the Poster Artists on the Conciliation Board, has secured a lucrative position with Seite & Kappes. The pressmen at Sackett-Wilhelms Litho. Co. are in revolt against a new system of gradation and an oversupply of apprentices. They threatened to strike, and were only prevented from doing so by their officers, who reminded them of the arbitration agreement. Discontent is rampant in many branches of the trade. More anon.

Gompers' magazine, "The Federationist," has two articles on injunctions. One is called "A Thesis on Injunctions." This is the best Gompers can do. The workingmen ask for relief from injunctions, and he gives them theses.

SHOT NO. 4.

The Louisville, Ky., "Journal of Labor," well known as an organ of the capitalist class, has gathered a long string of questions which it heads "Pertinent Questions for Socialists to Answer." It is not our habit to answer the dog that barks from behind a fence. For the canine we keep the toes of our shoes, should he get too near. But even if he remains at a distance, if he is too insolent, we see to—what? To him? No! To his master. And so now, especially seeing that his master—the piebald combination that feeds and eggs him on—has been stupid enough to expose himself through these questions as a target that it will be fun to riddle with shot. So now and at it, shot after shot—at the master. Shots Nos. 1 to 3 having been previously fired, now for shot No. 4.

Another of the questions is this:

Is it not true that the hours of labor are 20 to 30 per cent. less than fifty or sixty years ago?

This question is tantamount to a triple falsehood—

It implies that the working class now works 20 to 30 per cent. shorter hours—FALSE.

It implies that, whatever the percentage, the working class enjoy now more leisure—FALSE.

It implies that where, indeed, the hours of work have been shortened the working class has benefited—FALSE.

As to the first implication its falseness is obvious. Ten hours work is the rule to-day—taking all the trades into consideration; not infrequently the hours are 12 to 13. If these hours are 30 per cent. shorter than before, labor would formerly have had hardly time to sleep. The absurdity is obvious.

As to the second implication, just watch the language of the Mitchells, the Gomperses, and the rest of these labor lieutenants of the capitalist class when a strike is on, and their language when there is no strike on and they seek to rope in dues-payers. When they are simply beating the drums for recruits, then wondrous stories are told of the good things that the workers enjoy. But lies, like murder, will out. Strikes are the ulcers that tell of latent impunity in the blood. When these strikes are on, then one hears a different tale—a tale of inhuman hours, of starvation wages, of inhuman treatment. Then the 20 or 30 per cent. shorter hours lie is all forgotten.

And now as to the third implication. It is true that hours have in many instances been reduced—never 20 or 30 per cent., but still reduced. But this is not the whole truth, and a partial truth is the robustest of lies. The other part of the truth is that the reduction of hours has generally taken place simultaneously with the introduction of improved machinery, and that, consequently, while hours were reduced, the intensity of labor was increased, so increased that it left the worker in a more exhausted condition than before, so increased is the intensity of his labor, and so exhausted is the condition that it left and leaves the worker in that his life is shortened. Only recently we quoted from the Journal of the Int'l Typographical Union a passage admitting, despite the lower hours, that since the introduction of the linotype machine the "mortality in the trade has become appalling."

No, Sir, it is not true that Labor now enjoys greater leisure and comfort, the reverse is true,—as exemplified by all accessible facts, the swelling affluence of the idle capitalists being one of the important facts that point-blank give the lie to the claim of 20 to 30 per cent. shorter hours.

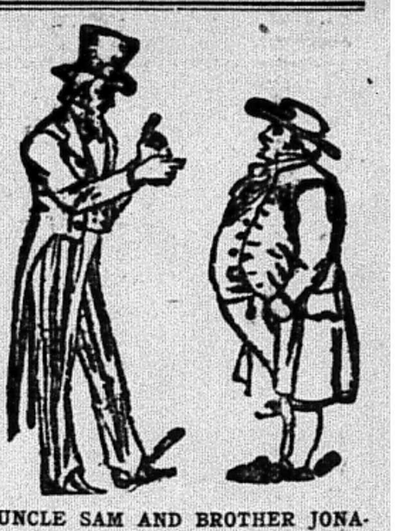
And there goes shot No. 4 through the poodle's master.

* * *

"Bill Vosburg, crook, is dead. He stole more than $2,000,000, but died poor," so says the "Sun." Vosburg differs radically from certain other thieves who have stolen millions. They have all died richer, having used their "original accumulations to increase their wealth. Had Bill Vosburg been one of them, the "Sun" would have said of him on the occasion of his death: "Bill Vosburg, capitalist, is dead. He amassed a fortune of more than $20,000,000 and died a shining example of thrift and ability, honored and mourned by the entire community."

The authorities at Washington are reported "after" the beef, paper and coal trusts. Their zeal is entirely of the pre-election variety. It will cool down when that event is decided. Even the trust magnates are "anti-trust" until then.

Workmen in this vicinity are cautioned against answering advertisements to go West. That section of the country is already overrun with unemployed, and strikes are numerous.



UNCLE SAM AND BROTHER JONATHAN.

UNCLE SAM—The general discontent——

BROTHER JONATHAN—Bother the general discontent; I call it the general stupidity.

U .S.—You may be right; if people knew what this capitalism means from which they expect a living while it will assuredly deal death to them——

B. J.—That is not what I mean. That's all stuff about capitalism dealing death. What I mean is if people were not so stupid they would know in what way they could improve their condition and turn capitalism to good use.

U. S.—And what is your way?

B. J.—I shall state my way if you have time to listen to me, because I shall want to state systematically.

U. S.—"Systematically" is good; let her rip!

B. J.—We are two here, you and I.

U. S.—That's profoundly true.

B. J.—If there is only one hat produced by us, we could not each have a hat, could we?

U. S.—That's another chunk of unquestionable wisdom.

B. J.—For each to have a hat we must produce two hats, not so?

U. S.—We could not each have one if there were no two hats.

B. J.—Now, that is the A. B. C. of the whole question.

U. S.—That seems very simple, but it may be too simple; it is certainly too simple for me.

B. J.—It follows from this A. B. C. that all that is needed is to increase production. If we can produce four hats we shall each have two; if we can produce a hundred hats we shall each have fifty——

U. S.—Not so fast.

B. J.—If our people could only increase the amount of the wealth produced, all would be hunky. He who has a million would have two millions; he who has $5,000 would have $10,000; he who has $1,000 would have $2,000; and the poor workingman, who to-day has nothing, would have——

U. S.—Twice as much; twice nothing is nothing.

B. J.—How you talk.

U. S.—Surely not like a booby as you do. Your "system" of reasoning amounts to this: "The more the workers produce the more they will get"——

B. J.—That's just it.

U. S.—And that is just nonsense. The fact and the reason is just the reverse: "The more the workers produce the less they get."

B. J.—Absurd!

U. S.—What enables the workingman to produce more?

B. J.—The machine.

U. S.—Say that in a room 100 men are at work without the machine and they earn $2 apiece——

B. J.—Very well.

U. S.—A machine is brought in by which 50 men can produce more than 100 before. Do not these 50 men now turn out more goods?

B. J.—They do.

U. S.—Are the other 50 kept at work?

B. J.—No, they are displaced.

U. S.—As far as these 50 are concerned, to begin with, your "system" falls through; more is produced, and they get nothing, being thrown out of work.

B. J.—Hem!

U. S.—Now, let us return to the 50 who are kept at work.

B. J.—Well ,they get something.

U. S.—That is not enough for your "system," they must not only get "something," they must get more than they did before because they are producing more. Now, do they get more?

B. J.—W-e-l-l——

U. S.—No; they don't.

B. J.—But they don't get any less.

U. S.—At first not; later on, yes. The men who are thrown out of work won't starve; they'd rather work for $1 than do nothing and die. So they apply for work at $1. And the result is that whereas before 100 men were getting $2 a piece, now that the labor in that shop turns out with the machine more than before, 50 of the men get nothing and go tramping, and the other 50 get

(Continued on Page Six.)

CORRESPONDENCE

[CORRESPONDENTS, WHO PREFER TO APPEAR IN PRINT UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME WILL ATTACH SUCH NAME TO THEIR COMMUNICATIONS, BESIDE THEIR OWN SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS. NONE OTHER WILL BE RECOGNIZED.]

AN OPEN LETTER.

Jersey City, N. J., April 22, '04.

Mr. Hankins B. Perham, President, Order Railway Telegraphers:

Worthy President:—I received your letter making inquiry concerning my letter in "The Weekly People" of April 10, '04, and beg to state that, aside from a typographical error, which made me say months in place of years, it and the signatures are genuine.

The letter refers to your explosion of a pipe dream concerning the announcement you made in reference to the reward the Rock Island made telegraphers for pounding down the stock of the S. F., etc. It also refers to an announcement about $45, etc., for operators, when you were called down by Professor Bowles, myself and others at Jersey City meeting.

The last time I saw you I publicly stated "I would stand for anything that would favor the working class," and explained the antagonistic interests existing between it and the capitalist class. I find The People stands for the former class at all times. You stated to me "We cannot have Socialism," though, before you became a tool of Gompers, an enemy to the Socialist, you stated differently. This, notwithstanding the self-evident fact that to-day society has evolved into Socialism, especially in industry; but capitalism, or anarchism, defies social ownership, thus denying equality, and skinning the workers of the full product of their toil. So I say, as said Henry Clay, "I would rather be right than be President." Fraternally,

A. J. BOLAND.

3033 Boulevard, Jersey City, N. J.

P. S.—Did you note in The People how Delegate Ramsey tried to drive the poor "Socialists" out of the A. F. of L., and tried to starve the miners in Telluride, just after you arrived in Jersey City?

Yours for the emancipation of the working class from slavery. A. J. B.

THE LITHO. AFTERMATH.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—In The People of April 22 appeared a paragraph which reads this way: "The lithographers' strike is over, as far as arbitration is concerned. The aftermath is still due. It will be a 'beaut.' Watch for it." Now then, a relative of mine works in a printing establishment on Cliff street, New York, and works near the bosses. When that arbitration agreement was reached, one of the bosses came back to the office and spoke this way to his brothers: "Now we've got 'em. We'll fix 'em now. In the bosses' meeting we all agreed that when they are back again, we will discharge all union men, one by one, and they will get no work from others." N. N.

Brooklyn, N. Y., April 23.

THE S. L. P. IN MASSACHUSETTS.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—Through the columns of our press I desire to say a few words to the members of and sympathizers with the Socialist Labor Party of Massachusetts. Now that the winter has passed and warm weather is at hand, it is time for each and all of us who believe in the progress of the S. L. P. to wake up and begin a systematic hustle in the interest of the Party press and a more complete organization of the working class.

To the Party members I have this to say: Before us lies an army of workers, most of them honest, but all of them brought up to believe in existing capitalist institutions. It is the work of every organization in existence in this country, except the S. L. P. and its economic ally, the S. T. & L. A., to keep these honest and gullible workingmen and women what they are to-day—dupes of the capitalist class. Knowing this to be true, as every member of the S. L. P. does, it is our first duty as members of the working class to rend the veil that blinds the working class of the land, and we want to understand at the outset that it cannot be done by the "hot-air route." It takes work—hard, unceasing, painstaking work—entered upon with the consciousness of all that it implies.

Remember, comrades of the S. L. P., that the vast majority of the working class are, in so far as they may be enlightened, just as honest as we are. The only reason why they tolerate the damnable system of capitalism at all is to be found in the fact that capitalism keeps them in ignorance of their true economic and political interest.

At this time it might be well to observe that the campaign of 1904 means much to the S. L. P. and the working class. To the extent that each of us do our duty will the chains that bind our class be broken. In this campaign we will have to deal with the usual crop of "paramount issues," plus a new crop a la Hearst; and, again, in every trade there are unmistakable signs of the nearness of a panic which will shake capitalism from center to circumference, and in which our class will suffer from the "risks of capital" as they never suffered before.

In view of all that has happened in the past, and which will undoubtedly continue in the future with increasing severity, it is the plain duty of each member of the only movement that to-day is worth the serious consideration of serious workingmen—the S. L. P.—to do all that lies in our power to break the spell that capitalism has thrown about the members of our class by showing them that the S. L. P., and it alone, holds out a promise for the future that only by educating and organizing the wage-working class on the lines of the S. L. P., having for our motto "the abolition of the wages system," can a better future be realized for the working class of America, and throughout the world.

No member of the S. L. P. has the moral right to say he is a Socialist if he fails to do all in his power, at all times, to overthrow the capitalist system.

One of the things that must be done, if we are to reach the desired end, is the extension of the influence of our press and literature. When this is done we can then say whether the working class or the S. L. P. is at fault, but not before.

On the question of the press, comrades, I wish to say that any Party member who is not deaf and dumb can, if he wants to, do much to extend its circulation, and hence its influence, and 'tis only when the period is reached where the Party members will *all* work systematically, in their several communities, that we will be effective, and the workingmen now outside our ranks brought where they belong—into the militant organization known as the Socialist Labor Party. The Party press is a matter of first importance, and the members of the Party should see to it that no opportunity passes by to increase its circulation. But the work that has to be done requires the sacrifice of some of our personal comforts, and much money, and both should be willingly sacrificed that the emancipation of the working class may be assured.

With the coming of International Labor Day, and from then on, every Section of the Party should see to it that as many public meetings are held as are possible, and they should insist on the speakers dwelling on the necessity of the S. L. P. press and literature. These meetings should not be allowed to drag out, and the effort spent in organizing them wasted, but they should be followed up, then and there, with a canvass for subs. for the press, and with a house to house canvass for the same purpose.

Every Section in Massachusetts must do this work, and do it faithfully, if the S. L. P. is to acquit itself honorably. The hardest part of it is trying to avoid it. Massachusetts can, if it will, add 5,000 names to the mailing list of The Weekly People between now and November 1st. Are they worth getting? Is it worth while to educate 5,000 members of our class? Is it worth while to make 5,000 dupes of capitalism thinking workingmen, fighting for the emancipation of the working class? I think it is, and so do you, comrades; so now let us all fall to and do what we can to make it an accomplished fact.

If each Section in Massachusetts will call a special meeting to consider the question of "How can we best extend the circulation of the Party press?" and then start out by each of them working systematically, either by house to house canvass or otherwise. The end can be accomplished, and 5,000 readers can be gotten easy for the Party press in the State. But spasmodic work won't do it. It must be systematic and persistent if it is to succeed.

Another feature of this work is that each party member can do something to aid it.

It is not like public speaking. All men cannot speak at public meetings, but all men can go to another worker and try to have him subscribe for a paper that will show him the way out of his misery and toward freedom. Will you all do it? If you do not, then do not blame the working class. Blame yourself for doing nothing in the direction of making your fellow wage slaves see the light of the S. L. P.

MICHAEL T. BERRY.

Lynn, Mass., April 28.

FOR THE NATIONAL CONVENTION.

I.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—In Wednesday's issue of The People I read a letter from Comrade H. J. Schade, in which he states that the S. L. P. could do without a National Convention this year, and that a candidate for President and Vice-President could be nominated by referendum vote. Now the very first thing for Comrade Schade to do will be to make clear some definite plan for us to work upon; and second, the length of time it would take to nominate candidates for President and Vice President by referendum vote.

Does the comrade realize that it would take until Christmas before all of the Sections could be heard from? Does he realize that first of all the N. E. C. would have to send out a call for nominations, and that it would take at least four weeks for all of the nominations to reach New York? Then they would have to send the names back to the Sections to be voted upon, which would take four or five weeks more; and then, in all probability, the members of each Section would vote for the candidate they themselves had nominated. How long does the comrade think it would take before the Sections could be brought to a unanimous vote? And surely a unanimous vote is necessary or, if not absolutely necessary, it should by all means be so. While the members of the S. L. P. may differ on a few minor affairs, we must be a unit when it comes to supporting a nominee for President.

As far as the Sections out West are concerned, I know that they are not of the kind that would stop agitating and educating the workingmen simply because their finances were so that they could not send a delegate to the national convention. Furthermore, I believe, they would be willing to abide by the decision of the Eastern delegates, so I can see no reason why the S. L. P. should not hold its regular convention. Then, again, there is no provision in the constitution enabling the N. E. C. to call for the nominations. This would still farther complicate and delay matters. I cannot say that I am a convention enthusiast; still, I believe in having them every two or four years. First of all, a convention brings a great many of the comrades into personal contact with each other, and, from an educational point of view, conventions are of great value to the organization. Second, the convention reports are of untold value to those who wish to know the history of the party. One can always point with pride to what the S. L. P. did four or eight or ten years ago, and the convention reports is where you go for proof. A convention also adds another volume of interesting and instructive reading to our literature. One might mention numerous other important features of a convention.

By all means let us have a convention. If you wish to cut down the expenses let us settle a few of our differences of opinion now, so that when the delegates meet they will know just exactly what there is to do. This can be accomplished through the medium of The Daily and Weekly People. H. SCHWARTZ.

Vigus, Mo., April 22.

II.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—In my letter last week I forgot to state that, regarding candidates for the N. E. C., there should be some provision made that would give the party members a better idea what kind of persons they are voting for. At present all we have to go by is the nominating vote received by the candidates in the Section which is the seat of the N. E. C. This is hardly sufficient. The candidate's age, occupation, how long a member, and to what extent active, should be given. This would give the members better ground for judgment in voting for members of that important committee in the future.

The Party's attitude toward trade unions should be made more clear and concise. If I understand our attitude correctly we aim to perfect the trade unions by promoting, organizing and educating them along Socialist principles, to realize that since their labor power produces all economic wealth that wages can never be considered an equivalent of the worker's toil, and to use their political power to change the system of private ownership of social means of production to collective ownership of the same; and instead of aiming at the impossible feat of arranging wages and profits satisfactory to workingmen and capitalist, to demand all they produce. H. J. SCHADE.

Santa Monica, Cal., April 17.

AS TO WAGES, MARRIAGE AND THE CHURCH.

I.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—I have read with interest the discussion opened by James Connolly, also the reply to the same by Daniel De Leon. As a whole, I agree with the national editor; there is, however, one point where I wish to criticise Comrade De Leon.

In summing up his reply to "An Attack on Theology" he writes as follows: "Theology or religion is a delicate and occult thing. No man of sense, surely none of feeling, will 'hit back' at that tender vein. He will respect that private feeling with others as he will expect others to respect it with him. . . . With Daniel O'Connell, the S. L. P. says: 'All the religion you like from Rome, but no politics.'"

Now, that may be the opinion of Comrade De Leon, but hardly that of the S. L. P.

Scientific Socialism is based upon the materialist conception of history. The S. L. P. is a scientific Socialist body, and recognizes the materialist conception of history as set forth in the "Communist Manifesto" by Marx and Engels. Our entire literature is based upon that theory.

On the other hand, theology or religion *denies* the materialist conception of history, and teaches that a divine being or power directs, or at least influences, the affairs of mankind. Therefore, how can Comrade De Leon say that the S. L. P. does not concern itself with, or attack theology, when at the very basis of scientific Socialism we take our stand as against the teachings of theology? Yes, the S. L. P. does attack theology, and we should not try to pass or smooth the question over. Every member of the S. L. P. should be absolutely clear upon this point, else trouble can follow in the future.

In the translator's preface to Bebel's "Woman Under Socialism," Comrade De Leon wrote: "It is wise tactics and strategy to attack an enemy on its weakest side. The 'Woman Question' is the weakest link in the capitalist mail." This is a rule that will work both ways. The "Question of Theology or Religion" is the weakest link in the Socialist mail, and when the day comes when capitalism is actually in immediate danger, it will, with the aid of the Church, make use of this weak point. It will say to the workingman: "See here, these Socialists have been trying to make you believe they do not interfere with your religious belief, but here they deny the existence of a divine being that rules the universe and guides the welfare of man. Does not their materialist conception of history deny all those things you now hold sacred?"

I believe that we should make this matter clear to every member, as well as prospective member, and that the editor of The People should have taken this stand, and not the one he did take in his answer to Comrade Connolly.

Another thing I wish to criticise as entirely unfair, and that is the denial of Comrade De Leon to grant Comrade Connolly further space in The People to answer the questions and opinions put forth by the editor.

Comrade Connolly opened the discussion, and briefly stated his side. Other comrades were asked to express their views, and Comrade De Leon, for one, did this, which was perfectly right. But Comrade Connolly should have at least one chance to answer his opponents.

In Comrade De Leon's answer to "Attacks on Theology" he asks Comrade Connolly the same question no less than seven times. How is Connolly to answer when the columns of The People are closed to him. Is this justice to Connolly?

I believe that Connolly should be given at least an opportunity to answer the questions which De Leon has put to him.

Don't ask a man questions which demand an answer and then deny him the means to answer them.

Yours in the S. L. P.,

FRANK P. JANKE.

Indianapolis, Ind., April 22.

[Comrade Frank P. Janke is right that Comrade James Connolly should be given an opportunity to answer the questions that were put to him. Had his reply done that, it would have gone in, as a matter of course. But his reply does not. Although a column longer than his original letter, the seven questions put to him are all left unanswered. Instead of that he brings in new and extraneous matter that was not a reply and would have needed another answer.—Ed. The People.]

II.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The embroglio desired by some comrades in continuing to dissect Comrade Connolly's letter and the editor's reply on the subject of religion induces me to mail a part of speech I prepared last spring on "Patriotism and Religion." To me it seems unwise to devote much energy to discussing religious questions. There are weightier matters needing our attention. Here is the part of the speech named:

"Patriotism and religion are what? Surely the men who signed the Declaration of Independence were not patriotic to King George and Great Britain. To whom were they patriotic? Were they religiously disposed toward the mother country? Please follow the constitution and see what the founders of this country had to say about religion. The authority from which the following quotations are taken in the line of these arguments, is Rogers and Williams Civil Government, published in 1889 and taught in the public schools:

"'But no national officers can ever be required to declare himself in favor of, or against, any religious belief, as a qualification for office.' (p. 191.)

"'Our forefathers were familiar with the dark history of those countries where Church and State had thus been united, and therefore forbade Congress to make any church a State church or any religion a State religion. . . . His liberty in such matters (religion) extends only to himself.' (p. 192.)

"'Governments have always been slow to learn that their jurisdiction does not extend over a man's conscience, but only over his relations to his fellow men.' (p. 192.)

"'Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom or speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble ,and to petition the government for redress of grievances.' (p. 189.)

"Many people throw up their hands in horror when Socialism is mentioned, claiming it is not religious; but is the Democratic or Republican or any other party religious?

"The working class cannot be patriots or Christians while the present capitalist government exists, simply because, to be a patriot one must be in sympathy with conditions in a nation, and to be religious we must love others as we love ourselves—which is impossible, for how can millionaire and pauper, employer and employe, love each other? If the rich loved the poor they would pay high and steady wages. They would not force idleness and want on the workers. Surely a worker who is in sympathy with the degradation of the producing class to the limit of suicide and starvation is not patriotic to the mass of the people."

May it not be possible that some men are not clear on the class struggle and the agencies at work to befuddle the minds of the contestants? The human mind is capable of great broadness, of resource; still, is not concentration a desirable assest also?

To sum up the case in hand: Religion is a personal matter; and why should men on the heights meddle with other people's private lives? An argument could be started right here, but I want none of it. I have my views on the grave, and all other persons are entitled to their religious opinions.

We are laboring to dethrone the capitalist, and establish the Socialist Republic. Now, do we condemn mines, factories, or railroads because the capitalists control them and the workers operate them? No! It's the system as a whole that must go. Therefore let us not impair our cause for the personal gratification or phases of theology.

Fraternally,

R. BERDAN.

Paterson, N. J., April 25.

III.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—For the benefit of Comrade Connolly, I will state my views on woman and marriage:—Woman, like any other individual, acts from the standpoint of her material interests; therefore, she marries to preserve and enhance her material interests. The capitalist system seems to point to monogamy as the safest form of marriage. The sequel more often proves disastrous than otherwise. Her experience and the inducements of capitalism lead her to the industrial field, where she becomes a competitor with man.

Upon the economic field woman forgets how to conduct, or carry on the work of housekeeping, and she finally ceases to look forward to marriage "for the sake of a home." She must, now and henceforth, consider her interest as a wage worker. Competition on the labor market is fatal to monogamy.

However, this development of capitalism, which makes woman a wage-slave, gives her a more comprehensive view and places her in a situation where she can, in conjunction with man, strike a blow for herself. She is already in the midst of the class struggle. When the proletariat has finally ended that conflict by the establishment of the Socialist Republic, woman will become the arbiter of her own destiny, and she will adopt that form of marriage that will best serve her interests. And her interests will be the same as man's. If monogamy shall seem best ,then it will be monogamy. At this distance, I believe it will be monogamy.

As to "Bebel's Woman," is there not intelligence enough in the working class to understand that work? And is the capitalist woman so secure in the married state as to preclude the hope of any assistance from that quarter? As you insist upon the Marxian theory, I call your attention to the "manifesto." There we are led to respect help from a portion of the ruling class. Are we unnerved by the presence of those already enrolled with us? Finally, the necessity for the completion and perfection of monogamy is an important factor in our struggle with capitalism.

THEO. BERNINE.

Indianapolis, Ind., April 26.

SOUND SOCIALIST LITERATURE.

The New York Labor News Company is the literary agency of the Socialist Labor Party and publishes nothing but sound Socialist literature.

2-6 NEW READE STREET,

LETTER-BOX OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

[NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.]

H. S., NEW YORK—Can not make out what you mean.

W. H., MILWAUKEE, WIS.—It will be long before the "Press Syndicate" will have done away with the separate news correspondents. And when it will have done that, the news correspondents will still be there, but then as its employees.

H. J. S., SANTA MONICA, CAL.—The job has been undertaken by Colorado friends. A coherent and full account of the Colorado troubles is in preparation by them. The offer was made some little time ago, and accepted through these columns. You must have seen the letter box answer.

A. L. W., DORCHESTER, MASS.—There can be no objection to the reproduction of some good piece of literature. But then you should credit it to the real author. Your article on "Woman and Socialism," for instance, is almost literally a transcript from Gronlund's "Cooperative Commonwealth."

T. W., NEW YORK—Aye, aye! The statement in "The Unionist" of April 20 that "the plant of 'The People,' at Reade and Duane streets, has been sold to the management of 'The Chief'" newspaper is without foundation in truth. It is one of those lies of the whole cloth that seem to spring up naturally from the lap of labor fakirism.

M. S., HOBOKEN, N. J.—Our experience with life insurers who seek to get workingmen to insure on the weekly plan is that there is something demoralizing in the occupation. So demoralizing that nine out of every ten, however honorable originally, have become crooks. The exigencies of earning a living are very imperious. But it would seem that a Socialist should seek to earn his living in a way that is less demoralizing to his character. Character is an essential thing to a Socialist.

T. J. K., NEW YORK—The fact that the Volkszeitung crowd make merry over such a personal misfortune as befell that S. L. P. member only goes to justify the title of "Ballon-Muetzen" that we have given them. Three times a similar misfortune recently befell members of the editorial staff of the "Volkszeitung"—Ibsen had to be sent to a sanitarium; Julius Grunzig, who started the row against the S. L. P., was so frightfully disappointed and shocked at his failure that he speedily went crazy and died of ulcers in his head, and Schneppe drowned his disappointment in the flowing bowl to the extent of going into delirium tremens and dying. Never did The People make merry over such personal calamities that overtake its enemies.—But, then, The People is a "white man's" paper.

W. J. F., NO. ADAMS, MASS.—The qualification for a member of the House of Commons, according to the Almanac of Gotha, is 21 years of age and the ownership of real estate, or the annual payment of a yearly rent of 10 pounds sterling.

A. S. M., CLINTON, IA.—By all means drop the "Appeal to Reason," but travel not so fast as to do Wayland injustice. On whatever other grounds the charge may or may not be justified, he can not be called a scamp because of his saying that his paper teaches Socialism. He believes that. To him Socialism is merely a fault-finding with existing conditions. True enough that is not Socialism. But foolish as the belief is, it is not scampish.

T. J., AKRON, O.—You must have run up against some freak. What is a caricature? A wholly false thing? Then it would not be a caricature. A caricature is the exaggeration of a fact. Exaggerated, it becomes ridiculous—a caricature, in short. So with your informant on the materialist conception of history. He simply carries it to the exaggerated point of a caricature. But inversely, reduce a caricature back to the original proportions and it will be true. There always is a truth at the bottom of every caricature. So with what your informant says. There is truth at the bottom of it. The truth is this: people who find conditions to suit them will ever adjust their morality to the material facts that constitute the conditions. And when the material facts cease to fit with their standard of morality, these people will become rebels. Hence the mere fact of rebellion does not suffice to mark a man a revolutionist; he may be an arch-reactionist, seeking to bring the material facts back to the stage where they will square to his now back-date morality. This is the secret of the worthlessness of the middle class "revolutionist," he is up in arms, not to perfect the altered material conditions so as to give birth to the next higher standard of morality, but to bring the altered material conditions backward. And he is quite honest about it, although "material interests" have ceased to exist, except as a recollection. Thus his case serves both to illustrate the truth of the materialist conception of history, and the caricature presentation of the theory by those who do not realize the effect upon the mind of class interests that once had their material ground-work, but whose groundwork has been washed away.

T. A., COLUMBUS, O.—You will have to read both passages over again. In the passage where Charles V. says to Franz von Sickingen: "Another thing it is within the realm of faith against the church's rule an impious hand to raise," he holds a language that is exactly the opposite of the sentiment that "a man of sense and of feeling will respect the private religious feeling of others as he expects others to respect it with him." The two principles are diametrically opposed. The former looks upon religious feeling as an official matter that others must bow to, not respect merely, but yield to and adopt; the latter looks upon religious feelings as a purely private concern that every individual has a right to set up for himself, without the right of demanding that others yield to and adopt it. The very idea of mutual respect excludes the power of compulsion in any; it also necessarily excludes the idea of allowing theology proper to be extended over the domain of civic rights. The test of interference with civic rights is the surest test to put to anything that claims to be religious. If that which is claimed to be religion or theology in no way interferes with other men's rights, it is religion or theology, and can be safely respected, tho' not agreed with; if, on the contrary, that which claims to be religion or theology does interfere with other men's rights, then it is neither religion nor theology, and the "religion" or "theology" with it is merely a mask behind which to conceal political and economic tyranny. "There is more in heaven and earth, Horatio, than is dreamed of by our philosophy." The Socialist stands squarely upon facts. He will reach no conclusions, negative or affirmative, that Science does not warrant.

D. D., BUTTE, MONT.—Japan is credited with 42,000,000 inhabitants.

T. C. F., CHICAGO, ILL.—Perhaps! Perhaps so! Perhaps, indeed, the S. L. P. has still many rude shocks to stand. We agree with you. But what of it? It is like iron, an instrument

Heated hot with burning tears,
And dipped in baths of hissing fears,
And battered with the shock of doom
To shape and use.

The movement that will unhorse capitalism and lay the foundation for the Socialist Republic must be thoroughly tempered. Candy-sticks won't do it.

H. E., NEW YORK; T. A., COLUMBUS, O.—Articles on "Wages, Marriage and the Church" received, will be published seriatim.

J. T., SYRACUSE, N. Y.; Y. A. R., RUTLAND, VT.; E. S., NEW YORK; T. S. J. D., PITTSBURG, PA.; A. McD., PITTSBURG, PA.; T. B. U., TRENTON, N. J.; E. J. D., MARION, IND.; T. P., HAVERHILL, MASS; F. H., LONDON, ONT.; H. V., BRIDGEPORT, CT.; A. G., BROOKLYN, N. Y.; P. O. D., COLUMBUS, O.—Matter received.

FOR GENERAL ORGANIZER.

To all District and Local Alliances, Members at Large and Sympathizers of the Socialist Trades and Labor Alliance, Greeting:—

You are urgently called upon to contribute toward the establishment of a fund for the purpose of enabling the S. T. & L. A. to place a General Organizer in the field at the earliest possible date. Every effort looking to that end should be made.

Address all contributions to John J. Kinneally, Gen. Sec., S. T. & L. A., 2-6 New Reade street, New York.

THE WEAVERS' STRIKE.

All readers of The People who desire to see the brave fighters of North Vassalboro, Me., backed up in the manner they unquestionably deserve, should do all in their power to promptly render them assistance in their struggle against the tyranny of the American Woolen Co. The strikers are members of L. A. 392, S. T. & L. A., and all contributions sent to John J. Kinneally or Sam J. French, 2-6 New Reade street, New York, will be acknowledged in The Daily and Weekly People, and forwarded to Amos E. Handy, Rec. Sec. L. A. 392, S. T. & L. A.

If you receive a sample copy of this paper it is an invitation to subscribe. Subscription price: 50 cents per year; 25 cents for six months. Address Weekly People, 2-6 New Reade street, New York City.

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Henry Kuhn, Secretary, 2-6 New Reade street, New York.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA—National Secretary, P. O. Box 380, London, Ont.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY, 2-6 New Reade street, New York City (The Party's literary agency.)

Notice—For technical reasons no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesdays, 10 p. m.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Regular meeting held on April 29, at 2-6 New Reade street, with A. Gillhaus in the chair. All present except A. Klein. The financial report showed receipts $35.85; expenditures, $43.24.

Communications: From the "Socialistische Arbeiter Zeitung," the German Party organ, asking for endorsement of a call for presents for a bazaar to be held for its benefit. Endorsement granted and call ordered published. From Milwaukee, Wis., reporting that ten members of the Section will constitute themselves into a corps of canvassers for the Party press; also an extensive report upon the matter of the recent election, the large increase of the S. L. P. vote, and the reasons therefor. From Indianapolis, Ind., reporting removal from the city of present organizer and on local work. From California S. E. C., reporting result of general vote in the State relative to political action in the State; also of the work done by the canvasser sent out by the S. E. C., who had just returned to Los Angeles, and is about to be sent North. From Illinois S. E. C., inquiring whether N. E. C. could utilize one of the Illinois delegates to National Convention as speaker on the way back. No definite action can at this time be taken on that proposition. From the Scandinavian Socialist Publishing Association, reporting the re-election of Comrade Victor Funke, as Editor of "Arbetaren," which election was endorsed. From Section Toronto, Canada, requesting that a letter of the Section bearing upon the matter of the Party press be referred to the National Convention. So ordered. From East St. Louis, Ill., returning donated loan certificates, sending money for Homestretch Fund and Auxiliary League and other matters. From St. Paul, Minn., a telegram asking for a speaker. The secretary reported that Comrade Charles H. Chase, who happened to be available, had been sent and had left at once. He will remain in the State of Minnesota for a time and would, on his way back to New York, address meetings arranged by Sections located on the home route, thus lessening expenses. Sections desiring to arrange meetings will please notify the National Secretary, who will arrange schedule as soon as he has word from Minnesota as to the time Comrade Chase's work there will terminate.

Section Hoboken, N. J., reported suspension for one month of August Schroder for misleading the Section. The organizer of Section Hoboken asked for a ruling as to whether or not the Grievance Committee of a Section has the right to examine the financial and other books in possession of the Section's officers. The N. E. C. ruled that a Grievance Committee, when investigating a charge turned over to them by the Section, has the right to requisition any of the Section's records.

Comrade T. Walsh, the treasurer of the N. E. C., resigned from that office, owing to the fact that he is frequently out of town and unable to properly attend to the work. Resignation accepted and election of successor laid over, owing to lateness of the hour.

EDWARD C. SCHMIDT,
Secretary.

N. Y. S. E. C.

A meeting of the N. Y. State Executive Committee, Socialist Labor Party, was held in the Daily People Building on Saturday, April 23, with Emil Wegener in the chair, and Kihn and Ferguson absent without, and Santee with, excuse.

Minutes of previous meeting were adopted as read.

Communications: From Organizer Section Onondaga County, expressing satisfaction with answer on question of nomination of delegates to National Convention. From Section Watervliet, and O. Beldner, member-at-large, Jamestown, N. Y., sending vote on delegates to National Convention. From Section Troy. From organizer pro tem. Section Albany, stating former organizer, J. J. Corcoran, had left city for parts unknown, and making inquiry regarding N. A. F. Votes laid over until final tabulation, and letters filed. Secretary was instructed to request Sections or Party members knowing Corcoran's present address to forward same to him.

Secretary reported having received the following for the N. A. F.: Beldner, $2.10; Albany, $13.74; Troy, $18.82; Scandinavian Section, $27.30.

It was decided that, in view of the inability of the State Committee to secure a complete attendance of members at its meetings, the following mode of election be recommended to the next State Convention for its adoption: The Section chosen as the seat of the S. E. C. shall nominate 14 members, the 7 receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared the State Committee. Should any member of the State Committee so chosen be absent three consecutive meetings, his place becomes vacant, and the one among the seven nominees who failed of election receiving the highest vote shall act in his stead. In the event of still another vacancy, the nominee among the remaining six who received the highest vote shall fill that vacancy, and so on down the list, if necessary.

The secretary submitted draft of call addressed to Weekly People readers, members and sympathizers of the S. L. P. throughout the State. Call was adopted and ordered printed in The People.

Secretary was instructed to correspond with Dr. C. W. House, of Auburn, N. Y., with a view of again organizing a Section there.

It was decided to appoint secretary to confer with Comrade C. C. Crawford, for the purpose of inducing him to take up the work of extending, by means of persistent personal correspondence, the distribution of literature and the arranging of meetings in parts of the State where there are readers of the Party press, members-at-large and sympathizers, but no Party organization.

(Comrade C. C. Crawford has consented to take up this work.)

After more discussion of plans for carrying on a vigorous campaign throughout the State, the meeting adjourned.

J. EBERT,
Sec'y N. Y. State Committee,
2-6 New Reade street, N. Y. City.

G. E. B., S. T. & L. A.

Regular meeting of the General Executive Board, S. T. & L. A., held Thursday evening, April 14, 1904, at 2-4-6 New Reade street. Meeting called to order at 8.30 p. m. Comrade E. Aiazzone elected chairman. Members present: Gilhaus, French, Kinneally, Barthel, Olsen, Crawford and Aiazzone. Minutes of previous meeting read and adopted. Financial report of general secretary and treasurer read, received and filed.

General secretary reported on agitation work being done in New Jersey by D. A. 4, especially in Newark, where Section Essex County, S. L. P., and D. A. 4, S. T. & L. A., were working hand in hand in the upbuilding of the Alliance. Two mass meetings had been arranged, one Saturday evening, April 16, with Comrades Vaughn and French as speakers, and another Thursday evening, April 21, with Comrade De Leon, who will deliver the address, "The Burning Question of Trades Unionism." Arrangements were being made for outdoor agitation just as soon as the weather would permit. Agitation was also being carried on in Jersey City and Hoboken.

Communications: L. A. 408, Canton, Ohio, order for supplies and notice of election of officers, also sending donation for L. A. 392. From L. A. 373, Lawrence, Mass., sending donations for L. A. 392 strike fund and General Organizer's fund. From L. A. 396, Skowhegan, Me., order for supplies and donation to L. A. 392. From L. A. 378, Waterville, Me., for supplies. From L. A. 152, New Bedford, Mass., with donations for L. A. 392 strike fund and General Organizer's fund. From L. A. 368, with donations for L. A. 392 strike fund. From L. A. 392, North Vassalboro, on the progress of the strike, with a report of same for publication, the same having been published in the Daily and Weekly People. Action: Resolved, That the report be received and 100 copies of The Weekly People with the report in be sent to L. A. 392. From L. A. 373, with order for supplies. From L. A. 392, with acknowledgments for moneys sent them by general secretary. From comrades in Braddock, Pa., with donations for General Organizer's fund. From D. A. 21, of Hartford, Conn., with donation for L. A. 392 strike fund. From D. A. 4, New Jersey, on agitation work being done by D. A. 4, prospect being good for a progressive Alliance movement in New Jersey. From D. A. 22, Troy, N. Y., order for supplies. From D. A. 22, with a report on the Lake and Wallace matter; the same was received, discussed and filed. From D. A. 19, Lynn, Mass., with report on local conditions and organization. From D. A. 17, Rhode Island, with a short report of strike now being waged in Providence and Woonsocket against the two-loom system; received and filed.

From D. A. 22, Troy, on local conditions and the necessity for work being done in Schenectady and vicinity. Action: Resolved, That action on the request of D. A. 22 be deferred until later in the season.

From Section Toronto, Canada, S. L. P., on the movement in general in Toronto, Canada; received and filed.

From L. A. 140, New York, with donations for general organizers' fund, and L. A. 392, strike fund.

From Twenty-third A. D., S. L. P., New York, with donations for general organizers' fund and for L. A. 392.

Several letters from members and sympathizers with donations for general organizers' fund, and for L. A. 392. All which were published.

From Ferdinand Hulskamp of Harwood, Ind., asking for information as to the Alliance, he wishing to become a member. Secretary directed to send the required information.

From Wilkinsburg, Pa., asking for information as to organization. Action: Secretary directed to investigate and furnish the desired information.

From Comrade W. W. Cox, of the Illinois State Executive Committee, S. L. P., acknowledging the receipt of literature sent him, and giving a report of industrial conditions in Illinois, the prospects being good for a healthy Alliance movement in the very near future.

L. A. 262, of Fall River, and L. A. 399, of Buffalo, report the election of officers.

Communication from the comrades in San Francisco, Cal., with an application for a charter for an L. A. Action: Resolved, That a charter be granted. The prospects for a strong S. L. P. and S. T. and L. A. movement in San Francisco are bright.

Secretary reported that it had been a physical impossibility for him to keep up his correspondence and publish regularly the minutes of the G. E. B. on account of his excessive daily work, and, therefore, the publication of the proceedings of the G. E. B. was neglected, but at the present, and hereafter, his hours of work would not be so long, and he could attend to it. He believed that in justice to the membership the minutes of the past meetings that were not published should be published. Action: Resolved, That the minutes of the last three meetings be published.

After a general discussion on agitation work and the necessity of an aggressive campaign being waged against the unscrupulous and dishonest, as well as ignorant labor leaders of the pure and simple type, it was resolved that we recommend to the L. A.'s throughout the country to hold as many out of door meetings as possible, and that we request the S. L. P. to have its speakers to explain the necessity of the economic to the political movement.

After other routine work meeting adjourned.

JOHN J. KINNEALLY,
General Secretary.

L. A. NO. 356, S. T. & L. A.

Comrades, you are hereby notified that there will be a meeting held at 1120 Talbot avenue, Braddock, Pa., on Sunday, May 8, at 7 o'clock p. m. All members are urgently requested to attend. Business of importance to be brought before the house.

Comrades of the S. L. P. are invited to attend, especially Section Allegheny County.

S. R. ROGER,
Rec. Sec'y.

THE DAILY PEOPLE HOME-STRETCH FUND.

UNDER THIS HEAD WILL BE PUBLISHED ALL DONATIONS MADE FOR THE LAST FINAL EFFORT TO CLEAR UP THE BALANCE OF THE DEBT ON THE DAILY PEOPLE PRINTING PLANT. THAT BALANCE, ON NOVEMBER 15, WAS $4,643, PLUS INTEREST. WATCH AND SEE HOW THE FIGURES OF THE "HOME-STRETCH FUND" GET UP TO IT.

Previously acknowledged	$4,092.08
A. Kessler, Albany, N. Y.	50
C. Watson, Lawrence, Mass.	2.00
W. B. P., Chicago, Ill.	1.00
R. K., Jamaica, L. I.	1.00
J. H. Smith, Chula Vista, Cal.	3.00
Sec. Rensselaer Co., N. Y.	70
W. Bauer, Paterson, N. J.	50
U. Fruch, Paterson, N. J.	1.50
J. W. Johnson, E. St. Louis, Ill.	3.00
C. A. Johnson, E. St. Louis, Ill.	2.00
T. M. Reedy, Lowell, Mass.	50
J. B. Dillon, National Military Home, Grant Co., Ind.	1.25
Mr. Dickinson, Newport News, Va.	25
	$4,109.28

SPECIAL FUND.

(As Per Circular Letter of September 3, 1901.)

Previously acknowledged	$8,572.05
C. A. Johnson, East St. Louis, Ill. (loan certificate)	20.00
J. W. Johnson, East St. Louis, Ill. (loan certificate)	20.00
G. Stevens, East St. Louis, Ill. (loan certificate)	20.00
G. A. Jenning, East St. Louis, Ill. (loan certificate)	20.00
H. Bloemsma, East St. Louis, Ill. (loan certificate	5.00
J. Simon, New York City	50
P. Driscoll, Seattle, Wash. (three loan certificates)	60.00
	$8,717.55

COMMITTEE OF FIFTEEN.

Previously acknowledged	$143.00
H. Warlett, Brooklyn, N. Y.	2.00
Fifth and Fifteenth A. D., B'k'n.	1.00
Sixteenth A. D., New York	1.50
Sympathizer	1.00
Section Yonkers, N. Y.	7.00
Thirty-fifth A. D., New York	1.25
Geo. Zeitel, Brooklyn, N. Y.	50
H. Kuhn, 16th-18th A. D., B'k'n.	50
J. Ebert, 16th-18th A. D., B'k'n.	50
J. Schwartz, 4th-10th A. D., Bkn.	25
	$157.50

CORRUPTION IN THE BREWERS' UNION

THE VILE TREACHERY OF THE "NEW YORK VOLKSZEITUNG" APPEARS PLAINER EVERY DAY. THE VENAL SHEET ALWAYS IN THE MARKET FOR ANY ROGUERY AGAINST ORGANIZED LABOR COVERS ITS TRACKS BY ATTACKING ENGLISH SPEAKING FAKIRS, BUT DOES NOT DARE TO MAKE FRONT AGAINST THE, TO IT, USEFUL, GERMAN JUDASES OF THE LABOR MOVEMENT.

THIRD EPISTLE.

(From the Socialistische Arbeiter-Zeitung," translated for The Daily People by Gotthold Ollendorff.)

New York, March 20.

In the last two articles from New York sufficient stress was laid upon the fact that the "Volkszeitung" is ready, at any time, to make common cause with mercenaries and traitors of the labor movement, as long as it finds its bill therein. Still, at times, in order to preserve appearances, it has to strike the moral, firmly-principled, immovably uncompromising attitude. In such a humor only lately the old lady, full of indignation, "hammered away" at the so-called labor leaders, who babble about the harmony between capital and labor and recognize the arbitration swindle. In her excitement she even went so far as to call things by their proper appelations, and to speak of traitors. So far, so good!

But while it is a fact that the just anger of the "Volkszeitung" always rises when the case applies to Irish or only English-speaking labor fakirs, it never dares to read the riot act to the vagabonds of the German unions. The reason is plain! The first, in the pursuit of their filthy schemes have no need of the services of the "Volkszeitung" and therefore do not "put up," but the latter—the German Judases—feed the hag's bottomless pocket in many ways, which explains the warm friendship. Is it not revolting to read that a notorious thief of workingmen's pennies, like Ernest Bohm, is permitted to represent the interests of a paper which would fain lay claim that it is the only truly Socialistic one? Has not every shred of shame gone to the dogs when corruptionists, scoundrels, who rob honest workingmen of bread and butter, traitors, cutthroats, embezzlers and blackmailers, are employed to promote an exposition, the net income of which is supposed to go towards the support of a workingman's paper? Every drop of beer which will be brewed by these creatures at the "Volkszeitung" Exposition is a drop of poison for any honest labor movement., and every cent the vile sheet gets through this is Judas-pay for services rendered during the negotiations of the New York pool-brewery-contract!

As said above, the "Volkszeitung" lately raised quite a noise in an editorial regarding the harmony-fake and the arbitration-swindle; quite often has it pointed out before the indignity of the imposition of an arbitration committee upon the New York building trade unions during last summer, but what it has so far persistently kept quiet about, is the indisputable fact, that it was nobody but the "Volkszeitung," whose attitude during the spring of 1902 — A FULL YEAR PREVIOUS TO THE CREATION OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED ARBITRATION COMMITTEE—was the main cause of the delivery to the arbitration swindle of the Greater New York brewery-workers!

Section 14 of the infamous pool-contract, frequently mentioned in the latter issues of this paper, reads as follows: "NO SYMPATHETIC STRIKE, NOR STRIKE FOR OTHER REASONS, SHALL BE ORDERED IN ANY BREWERY. ALL GRIEVANCES MUST BE REFERRED TO THE ARBITRATION COMMITTEE."

After the completion and signing of this shameful production, the "Volkszeitung" never tired of crowing about the great success attained, with its help, by the brewery-workers!!

Old hag, where is your logic? For the purpose of instructing those unacquainted with the much-mentioned New York pool-contract, some of its most ruthless provisions shall here be quoted, in order to plainly demonstrate the monstrous injustice perpetrated upon the brewery-workers, who were totally ignorant as to its true contents.

According to the contract, the first and second foreman of a brewery do not need to be union men, nor the cellar-foreman, nor the brewing-room foreman, nor the wash-house foreman. In other words, everybody in authority at a brewery, everybody who orders, worries and reports the workingmen IS NOT CONTROLLED BY THE UNION.

Unclassified laborers, that is, such as are without a fixed occupation, do not need to be members of a union.

WORKINGMEN MAY BE DISCHARGED FOR REASONS, SATISFACTORY TO THE EMPLOYER, and this provision holds good for ALL DEPARTMENTS of a brewery.

In the Engineer's department, even the chief engineer may hire and discharge workingmen as he pleases with the permission and assent of the boss.

The business agent of a union has no right to personally appear upon the premises of a brewery; at most he is privileged to communicate by letter with the office. Everything else is left to the arbitration committee.

Even the chief engineer may be discharged at any time for reasons satisfactory to the employer.

In short, the only provision missing, is one to the effect, that upon order of the pool brewers association, the brewery workers' unions shall dissolve at once!

That such rules form a powerful incentive to corruption, favoritism and vindictiveness may be clearly perceived.

To the honor of the officers of the Greater New York engineers' and firemen's unions of the organization and the manliness of the Irish members constituting Brewers Union No. 59, be it said, that they energetically opposed this agreement, for which reason they were barred from the negotiations with the pool brewers, through the agency of Bohm, Pommer, et al.

Deputy Sheriff Healy received the contracts for the firemen of the brotherhood, and political heeler McMahon for the stationary engineers. It was planned to destroy Brewers Union No. 59, and Howard & Child's brewery was the first from which its members were ejected and replaced by members of Brewers Union No. 1. Upon this Union No. 59 declared a boycott, whose extreme effectiveness soon became apparent, against this brewery.

Conville's brewery refused to discharge the members of No. 59, and was therefor boycotted through the instrumentality of the Bohms, the Pommers, etc., notwithstanding the fact that the national officers of the Brewers' Union recognized this enterprise as a strictly union brewery.

The corruptionists thus boycotted their own "label," and at the same time procured for Howard & Childs' brewery, from whom the union label had been taken away, a label from the Central Fakirated Union.

During all this time it was again the shabby "Volkszeitung" which opened its columns to lies and slander. Conville's brewery, although completely under the control of the Brewers' Union, was represented as a scab brewery of the rankest kind, while Howard & Childs' brewery, worked by traitors of the federation, by scabs of the most despicable sort, was declared a strictly union enterprise. For weeks, knowingly, the "Volkszeitung" published lies of this kind, which proves that it is a scab paper of the lowest kind, whenever there are any material advantages in prospect.

Put up the "dough" and do what "you damn please!"—that seems to be the motto of this charming publication, as far as the green goods men of the labor movement are concerned.

N. N.

UNCLE SAM AND BROTHER JONATHAN.

(Continued from Fourth Page.)

one-half of what they got before. That is the cause of the discontent.

B. J. remains dumb.

U. S.—I shall now return to what I was going to say:

The discontent is so widespread and the experience of the people is becoming so extensive that the cries of the capitalist parties will not fool them much longer. They have been fooled by the money and tariff questions so long that they are now tired of such. They are ready for the seed of Socialism. He who does not preach the straightest goods is either too ignorant for a preacher or is a knave. This capitalist system must go and make room for the Socialist Commonwealth. Nothing short of this will do. So long as this capitalist system lasts the people will not only be paupers, but will be pauperized worse and worse. Your idiotic theory that I just pumped all the wind out of helps to suggest the enormous criminality and insanity of a social system a feature of which is that the larger the stores of wealth, the poorer are the producers. Away with it! And to you I would suggest that you do some thinking before you shoot off your mouth as you have just done.

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